FBIS DAILY REPORT

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COMMANDO INTENDS TO CAPTURE, TRY GARCIA MEZA

Issues Communique

PY282301 Paris AFP in Spanish 1453 GMT 28 Jan 86

[Text] La Paz, 28 Jan (AFP) -- In a communique published by a local newspaper, a mysterious Toward the Era of the Masses Revolutionary Commando [Comando Revolucionario Hacia la Era de las Masas] has stated that it will capture and try General Luis Garcia Meza, a former Bolivian president during 1980 and 1981, when he returns to the country, an intention which Garcia Meza has already announced.

The commando accuses Garcia Meza of crimes against the Bolivian people and at the same time it condemns U.S. imperialism and Zionism for the terrorist actions that they have carried out against the Libyan people.

Meanwhile, Vice President Julio Garret Ayllon has reported that on 29 January Congress will decide whether it will try Garcia Meza.

The former de facto president is accused of the murder of former Congressman Marcelo Quiroga Santa Cruz, of eight MIR (Movement of the Revolutionary Left) leaders and of having links to drug trafficking, in addition to shady deals, fraud, abuse of power and human rights violations.

In a letter sent from Montevideo, Garcia Meza has requested the necessary guarantees to personally defend himself in the trial, which could start this week.

Minister Denies Commando Existence

PY290020 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1700 GMT 28 Jan 86

[Report by Cristina Corrales]

[Text] At noon today, the diplomatic corps officially greeted the new foreign minister, Guillermo Bedregal Gutierrez, who delivered a long speech stressing the importance of international solidarity. The whole national Cabinet was present at the ceremony after which several ministers granted a press conference.

Interior, Migration, and Justice Minister Barthelemy said that there is no evidence of the existence of a guerrilla group headed by a Commander Julian who allegedly signed a letter requesting the trial of former president General Luis Garcia Meza for crimes committed during his presidency.

Barthelemy said that the state is not aware of the existence of any guerrilla group that could have written the letters that appeared yesterday and the day before yesterday and which were delivered to the media, including Panamericana. Following are the statements by Minister Barthelemy:

[Begin recording] [Barthelemy, in progress] ...on that occasion, the defense minister had made a long statement about the investigations that were being conducted. No concrete evidence could be found to demonstrate the [word indistinct] or the possible outbreak of guerrilla activities in the country. However, the investigations continue and we are investigating certain persons who are evidently trying to create conditions that will lead to concrete actions in all areas, particularly in the mining districts and in tropical areas between the Cochabamba and Beni Departments.

We are conducting investigations, and we are trying to identify these individuals to be able to proceed in accordance with the law.

[Unidentified reporter] There is a threat [words indistinct] the government. Have you taken into account that there could be some other group [words indistinct]

[Barthelemy] I do not believe that we will reach the stage, or the situation, that was reached in other countries, where outlaw groups were organized and competed among themselves over their political ideologies. No, our case is not the same, because there is a [words indistinct] in all of the country. [end recording]

These were the interior minister's statements in which he denied that there are terrorist, or guerrilla, groups in our country and in which he also admits that his ministry does not know where the letters that were sent to the media came from. These letters were signed by a so-called Commander Julian, who is apparently heading a group that only has political interests.

This is our report, for the time being we have nothing more.

Congress May Try Garcia Meza

PY281806 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 28 Jan 86

[Excerpts] The National Congress will meet to analyze a proposal to submit former President Luis Garcia Meza to a legal trial to establish his responsibility for activities that occurred during his presidency. Vice President Julio Garret Ayllon met with the joint committee of the three government branches with Congress.

[Begin Garret recording, in progress] ... to try him according to the Constitution and the laws of 31 October 1884 and 23 October 1944. The Justice Committee has examined the report and officially acknowledged it. [end recording]

General Garcia Meza has sent Garret Ayllon a letter from Montevideo, Uruguay, requesting guarantees if he comes to Bolivia to personally testify at his trial. What has been done about this letter?

[Begin Garret recording] The message was passed to the joint committee of Congress in order to adopt all the appropriate legal measures. The minister general secretary of government will also be informed of the letter. [Words indistinct] 1974 constitutional system establishes that the guarantees should be granted by the executive branch. [end recording]

Therefore, Vice President Garret Ayllon has confirmed that it is the executive branch that must grant the guarantees requested by General Garcia Meza. Garret has also reported that Congress will meet on 29 January at 1800 to analyze the proposal to try General Garcia Meza.

COB, CONGRESS QUESTION FOREIGN OIL DEBT

PY281734 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 28 Jan 86

[Excerpts] The Bolivian Labor Confederation [COB] criticized government payments to the international oil companies at a time when the country needs foreign currency for production. According to COB Secretary General Walter Delgadillo:

[Begin recording] This is one of the things the COB permanently denounces. The country is dying for lack of funds, but the national workers are charged a heavy tax, which is used to pay the international oil companies. We have always demanded that the international oil companies operating in Bolivia be nationalized, because they are impoverishing our economy. These dollars are being sent abroad by these companies, which do not (?leave) any money to invest in Bolivia. Some national companies like the Mining Corporation of Bolivia [Comibol] need much smaller amounts of money to be (?reactivated) and for their (?maintenance). History, public opinion, and the press itself agree with the COB's claims on the international oil companies and on (?imposing) taxes. [end recording]

Walter Delgadillo has just told us that instead of paying the international oil companies, the money should be used in Bolivian companies such as Comibol for production.

In turn, the Congress' Hydrocarbons Committee has passed a resolution requesting the investigation of the international oil companies' debts to Bolivia according to Deputy Luis Gonzalez Quintanilla, president of the Congress' Hydrocrabon Committee.

[Begin recording] Our commission has been surprised by the publication of the government decree approving the payment of $80 million, allegedly owed by the Bolivian Government Oil Deposits [YPFB] to these international oil companies for the sale of hydrocarbons.

These agreements are not clear, despite the fact that the legislative branch should be totally informed about them. They do not (?renew) the world contracts. This is why the Chamber of Deputies has approved a motion ordering our Hydrocarbons Commission to make a full investigation of the agreements approved by decree No 21167 involving the oil companies and the (?renewal) of the labor conditions and the payment of alleged pending debts. It is important that the legislative branch control these executive branch actions, which seem suspicious because the agreements were signed between 20 and 25 December, but the decree was signed on 7 January and released to the public just today. [end recording]

TIN PRICE DROPS; LARGE LOSS PROJECTED

PY291053 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2347 GMT 27 Jan 86

[Text] La Paz, 27 Jan (EFE) -- Speaking to the Senate, mining industrialist Carlos Iturralde today stated that Bolivia will lose $122 million due to the drop in international tin prices.

Bolivia, which ranked second in world tin production, dropped to the fifth place after reducing its production over the past 5 years. Bolivia even ranks behind Brazil, which since 1979 has been maintaining a 40-percent growth rate in its tin production. If London sets a price ranging between $3.50 and $4.00 per ton of refined tin -- almost $2 less than the previous price -- Bolivia will lose $122 million altogether, including the price slump, royalties, and output reduction.

In 1986, Bolivia expects to produce 12,000 tons of tin, 3,000 less than in 1985 and 21,000 less than in 1977.

FINANCE MINISTER ANNOUNCES ANTI-INFLATION PLAN

PY281658 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia in Portuguese 0900 GMT 28 Jan 86

[Text] On the same day that the 16.2 inflation for January was announced, the government reacted by adopting the following measures: The supermarkets will be supplied from the government's regulatory stockpiles, then these supplies will be sold to consumers at government-regulated prices.

Finance Minister Dilson Funaro has accepted the recommendation of President Jose Sarney to use a strong hand to hold down inflation at whatever cost. Yesterday, the minister presented to the press a package of measures of the type the president recommended. The first measure is to freeze the price of food on the basis of the SUNAB [National Superintendency of Supplies] list prepared on 15 January. According to the minister, the prices of sugar, beans, meat, and rice will not increase in the next 30 days. [recorded passage indistinct].

The finance minister also announced other measures that will be approved by the National Monetary Council, CMN. These measures are intended to tighten public expenditures, such as control of the government account at the Bank of Brazil, establishment of a fund with 40 percent of passbook savings deposits up to a limit of 25 percent of all bank deposits, reduction of the period for investment in prefix-earning bank deposit certificates to 90 days, and cancellation of revenue advances to states and municipalities. With the last measures, the finance minister dashes the hopes state governors and city mayors might have of getting financial assistance to pay personnel salaries from the Finance Ministry, as Fortaleza Mayor Maria Luiza Fontenelle had wanted to do.

2 ADVANCED ANTITANK MISSILES NEAR COMPLETION

PY282350 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 27 Jan 86 p 13

[Excerpts] Sao Jose dos Campos, Sao Paulo -- By next October, two of the West's most advanced antitank missiles should be presented to the international market. These missiles are being designed and developed by Engesa [Specialized Engineers, Inc] technicians in Sao Jose dos Campos. The characteristics and the cost of these offensive weapons are secret. It is known, however, that one of them with a 5-kilometer range, will be guided by laser beam; and the other with an 8-kilometer range would be of the fire-and-forget class and guided by TV signals transmitted by optic fibers.

In addition to these two "intelligent" missiles, Engesa is working on a new 3.5-ton armored tank, capable of speeds up to 90 kph, and equipped with mortar, missiles, and rapid-fire cannons. This tank will be able to negotiate terrain that neither the heavy EE-T1 tank nor the Cascavel armored personnel carriers can travel easily. The two antitank, high-technology missiles will be cylindrical in shape, normally with a round warhead, which can be elongated. They would be slightly more than 1 meter in length, and would be nearly 25 kilograms in ready-to-fire weight. The warhead would weigh 4 kilograms and would travel at 1,000 kph, capable of piercing 800-mm thick armor. At present, there are only three projects to build this type of missiles: two in the United States and one in Israel.

SARNEY OFFERS CIVILIAN HOUSEHOLD POST TO MACIEL

PY272129 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 25 Jan 86 p 4

[By Gilberto Dimenstein]

[Excerpt] President Jose Sarney during a meeting at Planalto Palace yesterday asked Education Minister Marco Maciel to become chief of the Civilian Household. The minister preferred not to give an answer immediately, saying that he would prefer to remain education minister. Last week Maciel told friends: "If I am called, I cannot refuse." He also said: "I would like to remain in the ministry, where I am doing very productive political and administrative work." This is the second official offer the president has made. Science and Technology Minister Renato Archer, who is a close friend of Deputy Ulysses Guimaraes, the president of the Chamber of Deputies, was asked in December to remain in his post.

EMBRAER INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN PRC FAIR

PY271620 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia in Portuguese 0900 GMT 27 Jan 86

[Text] Embraer [Brazilian Aeronautics Enterprise] will be the first Western aeronautics company to participate in an air and space fair in the PRC, which will take place in March. The Brazilian industry will try to expand its market, and for that purpose it will present the Tucano training plane, the AMX supersonic fighter plane, and the Bandeirante and Brasilia models.

BRIEFS

FOOD IMPORTS --Agriculture Minister Pedro Simon said that he would deliver his national agriculture program to President Sarney by 15 February. About food importation he said that 5 million tons of corn, more than 1 million tons of rice, and about 20,000 tons of beans must be bought to compensate for the bad Brazilian harvest this year. Brazil will also import 45,000 tons of dry milk from the EEC and 5,000 tons of unsalted, good-quality butter to turn dry milk into hydrated milk. Importing these staples will guarantee the internal supply and the government's social programs. [Summary] [Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2100 GMT 24 Jan 86 PY]

FEDERAL POLICE DIRECTOR RESIGNS -- Federal Police Department [DPF] Director General Luis Alencar Araripe resigned his post yesterday because he disagreed with Justice Minister Fernando Lyra's decision to countermand an order issued by Araripe appointing Joao Batista Xavier as DPF superintendent in Ceara. Xavier is accused by newly-elected Fortaleza Mayor Maria Luiza Fontenelle of acting as a torturer during the revolutionary period. [Summary] [Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 8 Jan 86 p 10 PY]

MDP SAYS U.S. ENVOY BARNES DIVIDES OPPOSITION

PY292242 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 29 Jan 86

[Text] A delegation of the so-called Popular Democratic Movement, the MDP, that is visiting Rome has accused the U.S. ambassador to Chile, Harry Barnes, of trying to divide the Chilean opposition. The MDP delegation, which is made up of communist, socialist and MAPU [United Popular Action Movement] leaders, has also called on the Chilean Christian Democrats to unite with the rest of the parties, in other words, with the Marxists. The delegation has also stressed that 1986 will be a decisive year for the fall of President Pinochet and for this reason they believe the opposition must unite.

Jose Sanfuentes, the secretary general of the MDP, was very violent when he denounced U.S. imperialism and its permanent interference in the internal affairs of Chile. He also stressed that the new ambassador, Harry Barnes, has a very clear mission to maintain Pinochet's dictatorship, and he is doing everything he possibly can to divide the opposition.

The delegation has already toured nine European countries in just under 40 days and it includes the priest Rafael Maroto, among others, who is a member of the proscribed extremist organization MIR [Movement of the Revolutionary Left], and Reinaldo Thive, a member of the also proscribed Communist Party. Maroto has stressed the important role that the church is playing in Chile and indicated that the MDP holds frequent meetings with members of the Chilean Episcopal Conference. The delegation also revealed that the MDP has outlined a plan of struggles for 1986 that includes putting an end to the lack of government and the grouping of the opposition that will allow the creation of a provisional government after Pinochet's fall. The delegation met with parties belonging to the Socialist International and invited a group of them to visit Chile. The MDP travellers will return tomorrow to Santiago.

SOCIALIST LEADERS TO FORM UNITY COMMITTEE

PY291439 Santiago Radio Chilena in Spanish 1600 GMT 28 Jan 86

[Text] Four hundred representatives of various political parties and trends last weekend agreed to create a Committee for the Unity of Socialism to integrate the Socialist Party, MAPU [United Popular Action Movement], independent sectors, and other socialist-leaning groups. At a press conference this morning, Ricardo Lagos, Carlos Briones, Ricardo Nunez, Guillermo del Valle, Victor Barrueto and other leaders released the resolution of the plenum. Ricardo Nunez said that a decision was made to replace the socialist bloc in order to move ahead to a larger agreement with all socialist organizations.

[Begin Nunez recording] 1. To move toward the formation of a socialist commitment representing the highest possible consensus in this area of the left, especially for defining common goals in policies for (?alliances). The socialist bloc will give its share of this commitment with a political proposal approved by its assembly.

2. To create with this objective in mind a Committee for the Unity of Socialism comprising all sectors of the socialist area under equal conditions.

3. To move ahead on a priority basis with participation by all active members of the socialist bloc including the rank-and-file in a broad socialist dialogue toward a common policy for 1986, and especially to create single socialist movements in each front of the masses.

4. To declare the decision to create a socialist movement including all organizations sharing common political proposals for the country.

5. In order to move ahead with those objectives, the plenum has elected a high-level committee of the socialist bloc to organize the Committee for the Unity of Socialism, which will state the mandates expressed here. [end recording]

Ricardo Lagos said that he expects to reach a political agreement during 1986 to work in all social, labor, and student fronts for the unity of socialism, and to agree on the creation of a united movement to replace the socialist bloc for a wider movement. In conclusion, Victor Barrueto said that efforts will be made to unify the opposition around social mobilization for the recovery of democracy.

PCCH LEADER ON ACTIVITIES IN ARGENTINA

PY291523 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0000 GMT 29 Jan 86

[Text] Buenos Aires, 28 Jan (NA) -- Luis Guastavino, representative of the Chilean Communist Party (PCC) in Argentina, has stated that the PCCh "is not involved in the armed struggle" [as received] in its opposition against the regime of Augusto Pinochet. He noted that "I have no direct information about the Argentine Government's concern about the political task that our party is carrying out in Chile." Speaking on the Radio Continental program "Revista Cinco", Guastavino added: Other countries, however, have expressed a biased concern about the Communist Party's political action, as can be seen from the well-known statement issued by U.S. General Vernon Walters."

The Chilean communist leader, who resides in Argentina, noted that "the PCCh is a serious and responsible political party that maintains relations and holds dialogues with senators and deputies of the Argentine Congress, with Argentine political parties, and union organizations, and we believe it is indispensable to talk with Argentine Government authorities (?to clear up) this situation. Guastavino noted that his task in Argentina is "to offer solidarity to the struggle of the Chilean people with the extensive support that Argentine political forces grant to our cause. We carry out a completely open and public activity and we are not aware of any situation that may create disagreements between the Chilean resistance, the Argentine Government forces, and Argentine opposition forces."

Guastavino praised the activities of the "Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front" (FPMR), over whose activities, according to some press reports, the Argentine Government has expressed "concern". Guastavino noted that the PCCh observes "with extraordinary sympathy" the activities of the FPMR, which he described as an organization that "stems from the Chilean people's desire to struggle through the use of decisive and resolute methods against the Pinochet dictatorship." Commenting on the present situation in Chile, Guastavino noted that one of the main obstacles to ousting Pinochet is "the disagreements" that the PCCh is experiencing with political forces linked to Christian Democracy and he announced a "national stoppage" during the first half of the year.

Guastavino said that although the PCCh speaks of "popular rebellion of the masses" and Christian Democracy proposes "civil disobedience," an agreement between the two sectors may be achieved and he added that "at the end of the dictatorship we shall be able to achieve an ideological and political experience having extraordinary characteristics not only for the Chilean people but having a great impact in the Latin American Southern Cone region."

COMMUNISTS PREDICT 'UPHEAVAL, INSURRECTION'

Ex-Finance Minister on 'Crisis'

PY290255 Paris AFP in Spanish 1512 GMT 28 Jan 86

[Text] Mexico City, 28 Jan (AFP) -- Orlando Millas, a former Chilean finance minister and a member of the Chilean Communist Party, stressed here today that the political and social situation in Chile will provoke an upheaval in a very short time because now not even the military supports Augusto Pinochet and because the crisis is at a boiling point in the Armed Forces. According to the communist leader, who arrived in Mexico from Cuba, the people can no longer endure the wave of government crimes and repression and have decided to carry out an uprising that will resemble a rebellion. Millas also indicated that the financial problems that Latin America is experiencing have had an even harsher effect in Chile because the loans that were granted to the country during the past few days have not been for the nation but have gone into pockets, thus allowing no benefits for the people from the public debt.

CUTCH Leader on Need for Unity

PY291406 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1858 GMT 28 Jan 86

[Text] 28 Jan (EFE) -- Mario Navarro, secretary general of the Sole Central Organization of Chilean Workers [CUTCH] and member of the political committee of the Chilean Communist Party [PCCh], said today that 1986 will be the year of "national insurrection to overthrow General Pinochet's dictatorship." Navarro, who is in Madrid participating in a ceremony organized by the Spanish Communist Party to commemorate the 64th anniversary of the Chilean PCCh, said that "national insurrection is, at the moment, the most reasonable way out of the situation in Chile." During a press conference, Navarro referred to the need to unify all the democratic forces in Chile "to defeat Pinochet," and he expressed his wish "that Chile would be able to receive the pope in freedom and democracy in March 1987."

He announced that the Chilean political parties as well as several sectors of the population are ready to start "a set of either peaceful or violent struggles against the dictatorship" and he likewise requested international solidarity because "this task does not belong to our people alone." He said that according to the latest polls, 86 percent of the Chilean population "oppose the dictator," and the political parties as well as several sectors of Chilean society are willing to join forces against the regime.

About the National Accord for the Transition to Full Democracy signed by the main opposition forces on 26 August, Navarro said that "it has a chance of succeeding." He said that certain aspects of the National Accord are favorable "because they represent the strengthening of the forces that oppose the dictatorship," but criticized its exclusive character "because it was signed without considering the left," Navarro said.

RAMIREZ ASSERTS NEED FOR REGIONAL DIALOGUE

PA291906 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 23 Jan 86 p 7 C

[Excerpts] Harry Shlaudeman, the U.S. roving ambassador to Central America and the Caribbean, yesterday accused Nicaragua of blocking the peace process within the new Contadora strategy by refusing to talk with its opposition in the search for formulas to put an end to the conflict.

Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Augusto Ramirez Ocampo said: "We understand that" the fact that Nicaragua joined, in the Guatemalan declaration, the Caraballeda message, "means that it is accepting the need to begin talks with the opposition and to look for internal reconciliation."

Ramirez Ocampo said that the meeting between Shlaudeman and President Belisario Betancur was "very practical and clear."

He explained that this is due to the fact that they analyzed the contents of the Caraballeda message in the sense that several simultaneous actions are needed so that the so-called permanent bases for peace in Central America can be implemented. "The Caraballeda message covers matters pertaining to freedom, human rights, and the country's participation in democracy, but at the same time it calls for the rejection of any support to insurrectional movements that go against established governments in Latin America," the official said.

Referring to the need for a dialogue between the Sandinist government and the opposition, Ramirez Ocampo noted that the Contadora Group and the Support Group have clearly stated in the Caraballeda document that this dialogue is necessary "and by joining the declaration of Guatemala, we understand that it agrees with the need to begin talks with the opposition and seek an internal reconciliation."

Regarding the Caraballeda agreements, he said that a meeting was held in Guatemala and a declaration of Central American countries involved in the process was issued expressing support for this message.

He added that the document was delivered to U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, the UN secretary general, and the EEC.

"We are working in each of the EEC member-countries and we have obtained a tremendous response. The UN secretary general categorically supported the document, and the EEC did likewise," the foreign minister said.

Referring to nonintervention in the domestic affairs of any country, Ramirez Ocampo said that this is a very delicate topic to understand, but that it has been very well defined in the system of Latin American coexistence.

"We feel that there is no intervention when by a country's own decision these procedures are carried out. What is wrong is when there is a violent impcsition of them." he emphasized.

He added that in yesterday's meeting between President Betancur and Ambassador Shlaudeman, the viewpoints of each of the countries that signed the Caraballeda message were clearly stated.

"It seems to me that the explanation given allows one to think that the (peace) process is strengthened in this way. Ambassador Shlaudeman offered to inform President Ronald Reagan about the viewpoints we explained," Ramirez Ocampo said.

He concluded by stating that all that is needed now is for Central American countries to come to agreement on the last two matters that must be settled: the topic of joint military maneuvers and the need for a detente period, as stated in the Caraballeda message, so that this agreement can be possible.

FOREIGN MINISTRY PROTESTS PANAMA DEPORTATIONS

PA292020 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 23 Jan 86 pp 1, 12A

[Excerpt] The Foreign Ministry has sent a note to the Panamanian Government stating its amazement over the way that country proceeded in the case of people deported to Colombia, and stating that the procedures prescribed by international law were not adhered to.

After investigating the conditions in which several Colombians and people of other nationalities were deported from Panama to Colombia, the foreign minister reached the conclusion that there had been serious departures from the usual procedure in such cases.

The Panamanian authorities deported several people to Colombia, leaving them on the Pacific Coast, under the pretext that they were in Panama illegally, without the proper immigration documents.

The Colombian Foreign Ministry thereupon sent a note to the Panamanian Government stating its amazement over the procedure used, especially since those deported included several foreigners.

The Foreign Minister asked that government to issue precise instructions to ensure that international law and consular practices are respected in those cases. International practice has established that in the case of a deportation, the country carrying out the action must inform the country of the deported person of the reasons for the decision, so that the other state can be properly informed before the action takes place, and can maintain records of the different types of immigation that take place.

These mechanisms were not observed by the Panamanian Government, which resulted in the Foreign Ministry's diplomatic note.

MINES MINISTRY ISSUES OIL PRICE RESOLUTION

PA291711 Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 23 Jan 86 p 1

[Text] The national government decided yesterday to reduce the price of petroleum produced in the country and purchased by Colombian Petroleum Enterprise [Ecopetrol] from foreign companies for refining, and determined that 25 percent of the foreign currency obtained by these companies for exporting hydrocarbons must be sold to the Bank of the Republic.

The Mines Ministry issued two resolutions to this effect and one decree establishing new regulations on the prices and volumes for refining and exporting. Resolution No 060 dated 21 January established that Ecopetrol will pay the f.o.b. price to the companies selling them crude oil for refining, taking into consideration the average of three crudes of similar quality purchased in the Western Hemisphere and northern Africa, also considering the f.o.b. prices. Previously, the price being paid was the c.i.f. price, which included the f.o.b. price plus the transportation and insurance.

MINISTER, JOINT COMMAND TO VISIT EMERGENCY ZONE

PY290156 Lima Radio Radioprogramas del Peru in Spanish 2330 GMT 29 Jan 86

[Excerpt] War Minister Jorge Flores Torres asserted that the government actions in the political and economic field for the zone in a state of emergency has helped the peasants reject the Shining Path group and thus decrease subversive attacks in this area.

However, the war minister declined to state when the state of emergency will be lifted. He added that his measure is being studied.

Minister Flores Torres announced that he will travel to Ayacucho and Huanuco next week and that the members of the Armed Forces Joint Command will visit the area at another time.

The war minister confirmed that next week the Joint Command will conduct an inspection tour of the areas declared in state of emergency in order to assess the achievements of the struggle against subversion.

POLICE ARREST SHINING PATH, MRTA MEMBERS

PY292348 Paris AFP in Spanish 1552 GMT 29 Jan 86

[Text] Lima, 29 Jan (AFP) -- The Peruvian police today announced two victories in their struggle against terrorist subversion when they raided a people's school of the Shining Path Maoist guerrilla group and arrested two Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement [MRTA] members in Lima.

The Shining Path people's school was raided on 28 January. It is located in Villa El Salvador, in the southern cone district, one of Lima's most heavily populated shantytowns. The authorities reported that during the raid the police arrested 20 Shining Path members who indoctrinated peasants who then migrated to the Andean regions to recruit guerrilla supporters.

Also charged were Teodora Rodriguez and Abraham Arroyo, two young university students of the MRTA who were arrested in the heavily populated San Martin de Porres neighborhood on similar charges. The MRTA was responsible for about 20 terrorist attacks that occurred last week in Lima.

Moreover, on 28 January, the police repelled a Shining Path attack in Huancavelica, at 522 km southeast of Lima. The Shining Path tried to blow up the Tablachaca Dam and cut power to the Departments of Lima, Ica and Junin.

The police noted that the terrorists were forced to withdraw leaving explosives that they had placed on the main dam and the powerhouse.

MINISTER SAYS NO SUGAR IMPORTS NECESSARY

PY291552 Lima Radio del Pacifico in Spanish 1200 GMT 29 Jan 86

[Text] Agriculture Minister Remigio Morales Bermudez said yesterday that people cannot talk about prices if production does not increase. After meeting with members of the industrial association, the minister said that there will be no need to import sugar and that the government has established a series of priorities among which are poultry, potatoes, corn, milk, and meat.

LUSINCHI BRIEFS PARTY LEADERS ON MEXICO TRIP

PA292009 Caracas Television Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 29 Jan 86

[Text] At this time, President Jaime Lusinchi is meeting with the secretaries general of all of the country's political parties in Miraflores Palace to give them a general briefing on the topics he will discuss with Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid when the two meet tomorrow. For his part, this afternoon Venezuelan Energy Minister Arturo Hernandez Grisanti will brief members of the Congress Energy Commission on the agreements to internationalize the oil industry.

Prior to his meeting with the party leaders, the president met with top leaders of the Democratic Action [AD] party and members of his Cabinet -- including Minister Hernandez Grisanti -- to discuss his imminent visit to Mexico. At that meeting Hernandez Grisanti seized the opportunity to discuss the attacks COPEI has launched against the administration's oil policies.

[Begin recording] We have made a special effort to discuss the oil policy with all of the country's interest groups. There is a widespread consensus of opinion regarding these agreements. Therefore, COPEI is making a mistake when it refuses to support this policy. That could lead it to lose some of the 15 percent popular support it has against the more than 40 percent popular support AD possesses. [end recording]

With regard to tomorrow's meeting between Presidents Lusinchi and De la Madrid, Minister Hernandez Grisanti said that the heads of state will discuss the international oil situation in an attempt to establish strategy guidelines aimed at overcoming the crisis.

[Begin recording] We cannot expect all of the market problems to be resolved during that meeting. Many elements come into play in this situation, including the policy by various non-OPEC producing and exporting countries who refuse to cooperate with the efforts to stablize the market. There are a few exceptions to this policy, among which I should especially mention and congratulate Egypt. [end recording]

MINISTER HINTS AT POSSIBLE OIL PRICE DECREASE

PA282247 Caracas Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 28 Jan 86

[Report by Carlos Fernandez]

[Text] During a discussion with reporters Energy and Mines Miniser Arturo Hernandez Grisanti has revealed news that brought some hope amid the critical situation on the international oil market, in view of the uncertainty created by reports from abroad. The energy and mines minister admitted that the current situation is in fact a difficult one and that is why it is constantly analyzed. Arturo Hernandez Grisanti replied discreetly at the insistence of reporters:

[Begin recording] I would say that we can absorb a price drop of approximately $3 [per barrel]. If the drop this year -- today is 27 January -- is larger than that, we would evidently have to make some adjustments. However, who can really tell what will actually happen between now and 31 December? [end recording]

Among other questions, the minister was asked whether Venezuela is about to reduce the per barrel price of petroleum in the next few days.

He was as careful and prudent as in his previous answer, but did not rule out the possibility of following the trend established by the international market; that is, a price decrease. Arturo Hernandez Grisanti said that that decision will be made at the appropriate time.

[Begin recording] We will announce the amount of the decrease when we reach the conclusion that it is timely and necessary to make such a change. [end recording]

As for a meeting between Jaime Lusinchi and Miguel de la Madrid scheduled for next Thursday, the energy and mines minister said that the meeting will serve to evaluate the international petroleum market. However, he warned that magic formulas to solve the crisis should not be expected from this meeting. Minister Hernandez Grisanti also confirmed that the meeting of the OPEC strategy committee will take place on 3 February in Vienna. He will leave for Vienna on Friday after returning from a trip to Cancun with President Lusinchi.

BRIEFS

NEW DEPUTY DEVELOPMENT MINISTER -- Jorge Garcia Duque has been appointed as the new deputy minister of development, replacing Omar Cadenas, who has been appointed as general manager of the Venezuelan Investment Fund. [Summary] [Venezuela EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 14 Jan 86 p 1-14 PA]

OIL WELLS DRILLED -- According to the weekly bulletin issued by the Energy and Mines Ministry, the country's oil industry worked on 652 wells, of which 297 were from the 1985 drilling program and 355 were left over from the previous year. The document noted that of the total of wells drilled, 413 produced hydrocarbons. [Summary] [Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 3 Jan 86 p D-7 PA]

DE LA MADRID, PEMEX DIRECTOR DISCUSS OIL MARKET

PA291620 Mexico City XEW Television Network in Spanish 1300 GMT 29 Jan 86

[Excerpt] President Miguel de la Madrid has stated that the only way to avoid chaos and anarchy in the oil market is through international dialogue and agreement. He said that Mexico will insist on this position. Referring to the circumstances in the foreign market, he said that there is a lack of solidarity on the part of certain countries that have tried to increase their participation in the international market without realizing that they are not only plotting against their own interests but against those of the world economy.

The president made these remarks during a work meeting on the progress made by Pemex in the first 3 years of the current administration. De la Madrid said that in view of the international situation, which poses new challenges and difficulties for Mexicans, it is necessary to strengthen internal solidarity with and support for Pemex as the firm in charge of managing the backbone of our economy. He warned that Pemex is an institutional mechanism destined to admister a wealth that belongs to the nation, and thus the interest that must move the work of this company, its workers, its suppliers, and its clients is also the nation's interest. He also praised the support that Pemex has given to the country's economy by making a successful effort to decrease imports and investments in the industry.

During the 4-hour meeting attended by Cabinet members, representatives of the private sector, and leaders of the petroleum workers' union, Pemex General Director Mario Ramon Beteta said that in view of the confusion in the international market, Mexico reiterates its decision to adopt an attitude that is flexible enough to participate in world agreements aimed at restoring order and maintaining price levels. He said that the lack of stability and the uncertainty in the oil market hurt all countries -- exporters and importers, developed and developing -- and seriously endangers the world's financial system. We are not, the official added, simple spectators of events abroad. We are protagonists who play their role with a very clear sense of responsibility.

In his report, Beteta analyzed achievements and goals in each of the areas managed by Pemex, including, among others, industrial safety. He reported that in 1985, the firm reached the lowest levels of accidents in the history of the oil industry. He added that there was a drop of 23 percent in the level of frequency and 35 percent in the level of seriousness during the 3-year period. Beteta reported that during the first 3-year period of the De la Madrid administration, Pemex reached the goals set in its plans. There was an average annual production rate of 2.7 million barrels of crude per day. Of this amount, 1.2 million was assigned for local consumption and 1.5 million was exported.

Regarding the financial panorama, Beteta told the president that there have been advances which he described as essential and important. He added that Pemex' debt has decreased by $4 billion, which represents more than one-fifth of the original debt. The Pemex director said that 3 years ago, the firm owed 3 pesos for each 1 peso it owned. Now, for each peso Pemex has, it owes 75 centavos. He emphasized that Mexico's behavior in the regulation of exported volumes has been exemplary. To continue with this policy and to get others to follow it is essential so that prices can be predicatable and in line with our needs, he noted.

3-Year Pemex Income Noted

FL292212 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0358 GMT 29 Jan 86

[Excerpt] Mexico City, 28 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- Pemex Director Mario Ramon Beteta said today that Pemex's annual income from selling crude oil and oil byproducts has been between $15 billion and $16 billion. The Pemex official gave a brief report of Pemex's work during the last 3 years to Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid, members of the presidential Cabinet, senators, deputies, Supreme Court magistrates, and others. The meeting was held in Pemex's administrative center and lasted less than 3 hours. During the meeting, Beteta said the currency, amounting to an annual average of $11 billion, stayed in the country.

Over the last 3 years Pemex produced an average of 2.7 billion barrels of crude oil. Of this amount, 1.5 billion barrels was sold daily and 1.2 billion barrels remained to cover the domestic demand. Beteta reported that in 1982, Pemex owed its international creditors $19.8 billion and that due to its adequate compliance with its financial obligations, the debt has been reduced to $15.7 billion. This has allowed the continuation of funds from international markets to realize normal short term operations and also the use of $10 billion. He also reported that up to 1982, Pemex's accumulated earnings exceeded $160 billion pesos. On 31 December 1985, earnings totalled 3 trillion pesos.

DE LA MADRID, LUSINCHI MEETING SCHEDULE ANNOUNCED

FL300144 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2335 GMT 29 Jan 86

[Text] Mexico City, 29 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- President Miguel de la Madrid and Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi will hold two meetings tomorrow in Cancun, Mexico to analyze the international oil market situation. In conjunction, their respective committees will participate in other meetings and afterwards will join the two leaders to continue the formal talks.

The Mexican presidency has reported the official program of tomorrow's meeting. De la Madrid will arrive in Cancun at 1030 (1630 GMT) at Mexico's Caribbean coast 800 km northeast of Mexico City and 30 minutes later he will greet Lusinchi with honors as established by protocol. After the greeting, the two presidents and their respective committees will begin their first round of talks at the Casa Maya. The second round of talks will be held in the afternoon and the two delegations will conclude their work with an informal dinner offered by De la Madrid. Lusinchi will return to Venezuela early on Friday. De la Madrid will fly directly to La Paz in Baja California, Mexico.

The Mexican delegation includes Finance and Public Credit Secretary Jesus Silva Herzog; Energy, Mines, and Parastatal Industry Secretary Francisco Labastida Ochoa; Pemex Director Mario Ramon Beteta; Presidential Secretary Emilio Gamboa Patron; Presidential Chief of Staff Carlos H. Bermudez; Social Communications Director Manuel Alonso; Mexican Ambassador in Caracas Jesus Puente Leyva; and three other officials.

Lusinchi will be accompanied by Venezuelan Finance Minister Manuel Azpurua; Energy Minister Hernandez Grisanti; Venezuela Petroleum President Brigido Natera; Venezuela Petroleum Director Mario Rodriguez; Central Office of Information Chief Alberto Federico Rabel; and Venezuelan Ambassador to Mexico Guido Groscoors, as well as others.

SPANISH MINISTER ON CONCERN OVER OIL PRICES

FL292130 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0333 GMT 29 Jan 86

[Text] Mexico City, 28 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- During his visit to Mexico, Spanish Presidency Minister Javier Moscosco del Prado expressed his concern for the financial situation confronting debtor countries due to the fall of international oil prices. Moscoso del Prado expressed his country's interest to achieve quick stability in the world oil market since falling prices would have serious effects in the international economy. Before leaving Mexico City, the Spanish official (?expressed) his concern about Mexico's current situation and recognized that Mexico is struggling to get ahead. The Spanish minister said trade relations will not be affected by falling oil prices since a climate of cordiality and trust exists between the two countries. During his visit to Mexico, Moscoso del Prado met with Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid, Programming and Budget Secretary Carlos Salinas de Gortari, and General Accountant (Contraloria General) Fancisco Rojas.

SENATE LEADER DENIES DEBT POLICY CHANGED

FL292340 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2245 GMT 29 Jan 86

[Text] Mexico City, 29 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- Senate leader Antonio Riva Palacio said today that Mexico should meet its foreign obligations within reasonable limits and without it being an unbearable sacrifice for the people. Mexico is not exactly calling for a moratorium, but that debt payments to international creditors correspond to domestic capability, said the Mexican legislator.

Referring to statements made by Finance and Public Credit Secretary Jesus Silva Herzog, the Senate leader denied any changes in the government's policy on the foreign debt. Emphasis has been placed on one government attitude. This has always been the people's principle object of attention. He said that only sustained growth that would benefit all the people could result in political action searching for proposals, negotiations, and solutions to the problem of the debt. he warned that the people's patience will be limited according to the sacrifices they will have to make. He added that this depends on how much international oil prices drop, how much world bank interest rates fall or increase, how important debt service becomes, changes in domestic inflation indexes and their impact on prices and salaries, as well as other factors. Riva Palacio said: "To achieve the future, we need to maintain national unity, support efforts, and avoid having the majority support the weight of the crisis. The weight should be for all Mexicans.

AUTHORITIES DEPORT 23 CUBAN, 4 LEBANESE ALIENS

PA282242 Mexico City XEW Television Network in Spanish 1300 GMT 27 Jan 86

[Text] Just as there are many Mexicans who decide to enter the United States illegally, there are also those who enter our country illegally. The Mexican immigration authorities deported 23 Cubans and 4 Lebanese who arrived in this capital from Panama yesterday. They intended to enter our country with counterfeit documents. The immigration personnel discovered the counterfeit documents when they were conducting the required inspection. The foreigners were immediately sent back to Panama on Flight 421 of Aeromexico, the airline that brought them to our country. A similar incident took place a few days ago in the border area of northern Mexico. The authorities acted in the manner as they did in this capital yesterday, in compliance with Mexican law.

COSTA RICA

NICARAGUAN SOLDIERS REPORTEDLY RAID BORDER AREA

PA282255 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 1830 GMT 27 Jan 86

[Text] A group of 15 or more members of the Sandinist People's Army [EPS] raided Costa Rican territory through El Delta at the mouth of the San Juan River. The raid was reported to authorities of the Ministry of Justice by the region's Civil Police chief. The exact number of men who trespassed into national territory was not given in the message.

As soon as the raiders entered Costa Rican territory, Civil Police members opened fire on them. The raiders then crossed back into Nicaraguan territory. The security minister has sent members of the National Intelligence and Security Directorate [DIS] to the site to conduct a thorough investigation. Apparently, several civil policemen have reported traces of blood in the area. In addition, Public Security Deputy Minister Colonel Johnny Campos told this radio station that the investigation carried out by the DIS -- which included pictures of the area -- did not disclose any traces of blood. He added that national territory has in fact been violated, but without any further consequences. For this reason, the matter has been turned over to the Foreign Ministry for the corresponding protest. Col Campos said the civil policemen confirmed that the raiders were EPS members, since the policemen saw them with their binoculars. No counterrevolutionary groups exist in this area because it is in the jurisdiction of the Civil Police.

The cause for this violation of national territory by the EPS patrol is still unknown. Deputy Minister Campos said that vigilance on the northern border has not been stepped up, but the garrison in the area still numbers 1,500 soldiers. A battalion has been deployed along the border with Nicaragua. He stressed, however, that this number of civil policemen is not sufficient to watch over Costa Rican territory in this sector.

FOREIGN MINISTER VIEWS FEBRUARY CONTADORA MEETING

PA292235 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 1380 GMT 29 Jan 86

[Text] Upon returning from Honduras where he attended the inauguration of President Jose Azcona Hoyo, Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez confirmed that the Contadora Group has scheduled a meeting of the group's plenipotentiaries during the early part of February. When asked about the meetings held by the Contadora foreign ministers, Gutierrez said the following:

[Begin recording] [Gutierrez] I conversed with several of the Contadora Group foreign ministers: Jorge Abadia of Panama, Augusto Ramirez of Colombia, and Simon Alberto Consalvi of Venezuela. I discussed with them actions that should be carried out with the implementation of the Caraballeda Document. The night before last I was informed that they had held a meeting, and Augusto Ramirez confirmed that the Contadora Group plans to schedule a meeting of plenipotentiaries in Panama for next week.

[Unindentified reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Gutierrez] We will continue the negotiations to finalize preparation of the Contadora document. [end recording]

Foreign Minister Gutierrez also mentioned the document issued by the Contadora foreign ministers in Caraballeda, Venezuela. At an earlier meeting with President Monge and U.S. Roving Ambassador Harry Shlaudeman in Costa Rica, Gutierrez had expressed doubts about specific issues in this document. He said the Costa Rican Foreign Ministry still has doubts.

PARTIES UNITE TO DEFEND, PROMOTE DEMOCRACY

PA292209 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1915 GMT 29 Jan 86

[By Wilfredo Chacon S.]

[Excerpt] San Jose, 29 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- The country's majority parties, the ruling National Liberation Party, and the opposition Christian Social Unity Party have promised to join efforts to defend and promote democratic rights and liberties. At a solemn ceremony promoted by the Pro-Democracy Association [Aprodem] and in the presence of diplomats of the Soviet Union, Jamaica, Spain, and the United States, the two presidential candidates in Sunday's elections agreed "to boost social solidarity between the citizens and the country's economic and social sectors." Oscar Arias Sanchez of the National Liberation Party and Rafael Angel Calderon of the Christian Social Unity Party promised that every change that must be promoted by whoever wins the election will be carried out "strictly adhering to the institutional and legal order."

In a document issued by the political committees of these two parties today they explained that when they talked about decmocracy there were not only referring to a formal political system but that, in a broader manner, "they are talking about freedom, social solidarity, economic welfare, and cultural flourishing."

NICARAGUA REPORTEDLY SEIZED BOAT IN NATIONAL WATERS

PA282314 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 1830 GMT 27 Jan 86

[Text] It has been reported that the Costa Rican fishing boat detained by the Sandinist People's Army was in Costa Rican waters at the time. This information was given to this radio station by Deputy Security Minister Colonel Johnny Campos. He said that the boat, identified as "Costa Rica 05," was intercepted by a Sandinist patrol boat in Costa Rican waters off Punta Zacate. Brothers Avelino, Manuel, and Francisco Avendana, the Costa Rican crew members, are being investigated by Sandinist authorities.

Deputy Minister Campos said that when the Costa Rican boat was detained it was sailing in the country's northern waters and a report was not received. When word about the incident was recieved, the three fishermen were already being taken to Nicaragua. He said finally, however, that according to the authorities report, the Costa Rican were in Nicaraguan waters at the time of their detention.

EL SALVADOR

BLANDON ON REMOVING CIVILIANS FROM GUAZAPA

PA291226 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 28 Jan 86

[Isidro Emilio Martinez report]

[Text] General Adolfo Onecifero Blandon said today that the second phase of "Operation Phoenix" has concluded, and that a third phase is under way to conduct searches in each of the areas assigned to the participating units.

Since the start, approximately 2 weeks ago, of Operation "Phoenix," which the Army has been conducting in Guazapa Hill, the Army has seized from the FMLN the following: 27 weapons, 1 M-60 machinegun, communications material, large supplies of ammunition of different calibers, 105 caves [tatus], medicine, surgical equipment, and a well-equipped clandestine laboratory. In addition, it was reported that the Army inflicted 48 casualties on the FMLN, and sustained 60 casualties, two of whom have died. Upon his arrival at (Blar) Hill, which is Guazapa Hill's highest point, Gen Blandon talked about the civilians with the guerrillas.

[Begin recording] [Blandon] Yesterday, during his homily, Msgr Rosas Chavez expressed his concern because he has learned that there are still a large number of civilians in different valleys of Guazapa Hill, and he told the commanders how they should treat these civilians. So far, we have a total of 200... [unidentified person corrects Blandon] 222 persons who have been rescued; at present, they are near the San Francisco Sugar Mill. At present, the guerrilla units are near us, practically encircling the highest part, basically in the major valleys in that zone, valleys which, as you will be able to see, are topographically very typical of this zone.

[Martinez] General, what measures will be taken regarding the civilians who are still with the guerrillas?

[Blandon] The measures are as follows: We are sending messages to them through land and air loudspeakers. We are also going to convey our message through flyers telling them that the Armed Forces will guarantee their physical well-being. We are going to cite them the example of people who are under our care in San Francisco. Also, we have asked the assistance of the Red Cross so that they will be able to conduct some humanitarian action for civilians who want to leave the Suchitoto area. We can rescue those people. We believe that there are civilians hidden, but I cannot give the exact figure. However, I think that there are about 600 people hidden.

For example, I remember the "Guazapa 10 operation," which praticallv dismantled all the main terrorist redoubts in that zone. At that time, the terrorists had to leave the area towards the country's northern zone. That is the difference with this current operation. The guerrillas have not yet been able to leave the zone, and are surrounded. In a strategic change for the terrorists, they seem to be trying to conduct some actions in the country's western area so as to give the impression that they are extending the war all over the country. We are aware that a group of terrorists is operating in the western zone. In fact, that is why we had the action in (Payua). Last night, there was a minor clash in (El Chopo). However, we are taking measures, and this week we will begin taking a very special procedure in the western zone. [end recording]

Gen Blandon also remarked that the guerrillas' morale is low, as seen in the abandonment of camps and of important documents, and that "Operation Phoenix" will continue indefinitely.

BOMB EXPLOSION AT D'AUBUISSON'S HOUSE REPORTED

PA292143 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 29 Jan 86

[By Jose Salvador Castellanos]

[Text] Unidentified persons detonated a bomb last night at the main gate of a house which had been inhabited by Major Roberto D'Aubuisson until a few days ago.

The house is located at the corner of Las Amapolas Avenue and Los Abetos Street in the San Francisco neighborhood. The incident took place at approximately 2200, and it is presumed that the authors planned an attack against Maj D'Aubuisson, but did not know that he no longer lived at the house -- which was completely empty at the time of the attack.

Workers were seen repairing the damage this morning; the main damage was inflicted to the front gate and some windows inside the residence. According to some watchmen in the area, there is no information on the person or persons involved. No clashes ensued after the attack, although all the neighbors were extremely nervous.

The placement of the bomb coincides with a fire which -- it is presumed -- accidentally started yesterday in an empty lot behind the Nationalist Republican Alliance [ARENA] headquarters.

GUATEMALA

NICARAGUAN OPPOSITION GROUP SEEKS 'MORE SUPPORT'

PA292244 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 29 Jan 86 p 8

[Excerpts] The members of a Nicaraguan Democratic Coordinating Board [CDN] delegation have asserted that the policy of the Nicaraguan Marxist-Leninist regime is expansionist and all Central American countries are threatened. They gave a press conference at the Camino Real hotel last night.

Dr Eduardo Rivas Gasteazoro, president of the delegation that has come to Guatemala to request moral support from the government, has said that this should concern all the area countries since it is not pleasant to live as his fellow Nicaraguans live. Prior to the toppling of the Somoza regime, the Sandinists vowed to export their revolution from Mexico to Panama, so the Communist danger lurks in Central America.

In addition, Myriam Arguello, president of the Nicaraguan Conservative Party, said the OAS is one of the organizations most responsible for seeking a solution for the Nicaraguan problem.

Answering a question about the way in which the CDN feels the Nicaraguan problem can be solved, Juan Carlos Morales, director of the Nicaraguan Chamber of Commerce, said they do not want armed intervention by any one country. He said: The presence of Russians in our territory is one of the causes for our disagreeing with the U.S. military and financial assistance to the contras. This support has turned the situation into an East-West conflict.

Rivas Gasteazoro also mentioned a recent television interview in Guatemala with Commander Daniel Ortega and described it as a farce. Dr Rivas added: Ortega took the opportunity to lie unashamedly about the situation in our country. He asserted that there is freedom of press and religion in Nicaragua. This is not true. He also said: A government like that will lie in order to achieve its purposes because freedom of press and religion are not the only ones restricted in Nicaragua. We made our contacts to meet with Guatemalan personalities when we arrived here because each phone call to Central America costs us more than $100.

The CDN president said they will meet with President Vinicio Cerezo to deliver a document in which they present the true Nicaraguan situation. Rivas Gasteazoro refused to disclose the contents of the document and promised to reveal it after the Guatemalan president learns about it.

HONDURAS

AZCONA MEETS WITH DUARTE, CEREZO, ESQUIVEL

PA292002 San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 28 Jan 86 p 3

[Text] Tegucigalpa (ACAN-EFE) -- Honduran President Jose Simeon Azcona Hoyo met yesterday with the presidents of El Salvador and Guatemala, Jose Napoleon Duarte and Vinicio Cerezo, and with Belizean Prime Minister Manuel Esquivel. The meetings were held separately and each one lasted between 20 and 25 minutes. According to the participants, "they were courtesy visits made to show respect and sympathy to the new Honduran president [quotation marks as published]

Leaving Azcona Hoyo's office, Duarte said: "We admire the people of Honduras for today's magnificent democratic example, which is the continuation of an electoral process." Duarte said that as Salvadoran president, it is difficult for him to establish the dates for the end of the guerrilla problem in his country. Duarte indicated that "the important thing is to put an end to the causes for the birth of the guerrilla movement in El Salvador." He defined "justice, poverty, misery, and the lack of freedom for the people" as the causes for the birth of this guerrilla movement. "I am working hard and am conscientiously trying to eliminate these causes," Duarte said. The leader also indicated that in the dialogue with the guerrillas, he has maintained what he said about "opening the political space" and noted that his talks with the guerrillas have been "sincere and honest in trying to find the path to peace." However, he said that he is not willing to "accept the tactical dialogue of propaganda, which the guerrillas seem to want."

NICARAGUA

MININT ISSUES NEW RESTRICTIONS ON POLITICAL EVENTS

PA291321 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 28 Jan 86

[Communique of the Ministry of the Interior, Minint, issued in Managua on 27 January -- read by announcer]

[Text] After receiving a note from the National Council of Political Parties, CNPP, the Republic of Nicaragua's Minint informs our people of the following:

1. The activities usually carried out by political parties are still in effect. 2. Political parties must notify the Sandinist Police, PS of their plans to carry out an event at least 1 week in advance, indicating the date, place, and time in which it will be held. The notification must be made to the police authorities in their respective areas -- that is, according to their territory. 3. The PS will reply to the request in writing 48 hours after its presentation, either authorizing or denying authorization for the political event. 4. Only political parties represented in the National Assembly, and participating in the drafting of the new Constitution, will be allowed to conduct political activities concerning this process. 5. The same rule applies to political parties concerning propaganda. 6. The deputy chiefs of the PS General Directorate, the chiefs of the national departments, the chiefs of the territorial departments, and the chiefs of the regional police will be responsible for ensuring compliance with these regulations.

Managua, 27 January 1986; Public and International Relations Directorate, Minint

RAMIREZ DISCUSSES RELATIONS WITH U.S., HONDURAS

PA281600 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 28 Jan 86

[Interview with Nicaraguan Vice President Sergio Ramirez Mercado by Cadena Audio Video news director Rodrigo Wong Arevalo in Tegucigalpa -- live]

[Text] [Wong] First of all, what is your opinon of the policy maintained by the outgoing government of Roberto Suazo Cordova toward Nicaragua?

[Ramirez] First, I want to cordially and affectionately greet the Honduran people who are listening to me this morning. Regarding your question, I must tell you that I have arrived here with my government's delegation filled with great hopes about the possibility of a radical and deep change in the relations between Honduras and Nicaragua as a result of the inauguration of President Azcona. I believe that for a start we have opened here the possibility of a dialogue. The possibilities for a dialogue were very slight in the past.

A dialogue among Central American brothers and neighbors seems to be very important now. The topic of the talk I held yesterday with President Azcona -- in the 3 minutes that we were able to talk, because he was obviously very busy with the inauguaration -- was precisely the establishment of a permanent dialogue at the level of presidents, foreign ministers, military leaders, and military leaders at the border, so that we can begin to profit from this dialogue. As I said, unfortunately there were very few possibilities for such a dialogue in the past. This same lack of communication was the source of much tension.

[Wong] Do you think that with the inauguration of a new administration, Jose Azcona Hoyo will fundamentally change the Honduran Government's policy toward the Nicaraguan Sandinist Government?

[Ramirez] You know that there are two factors that shape a country's policy. One of the factors is the circumstances that exist, the other is the will and honesty of men. I have found in Azcona a simple but firm man, a man whom I believe is capable of doing what he says. When he spoke about foreign policy in yesterday's speech, he stressed that Honduras will respect and demand respect for the principle of nonintervention and noninterference in the affairs of other countries. We believe that this is an extremely important declaration of principles that involves relations between Honduras and Nicaragua. If this means that the Honduran Government will definitely close the doors to the traffic of arms towards Nicaragua and to the counterrevolutionary presence, and that it will do so with a firm hand, then this will evidently mean a very profound change in the relations between our two countries.

[Wong] What then does the Sandinist government expect from the new Honduran Government with regard to Nicaragua?

[Ramirez] Precisely that the relations be first of all based on dialogue. As I said, this dialogue should be between our presidents, our foreign ministers, our military leaders, and our border authorities. Through this dialogue, we can lay the groundwork for a new relationship and we can reach concrete agreements with regard to the borders so that tensions will disappear. As a result of these new agreements, we can begin a new relationship which I think is possible. That is why we are here in response to President Azcona's invitation to attend his inauguration. We believe that this possibility really exists.

We also believe that the Honduran people are not interested in any type of tension, conflict, or confrontation with Nicaragua. I was able to see this in the stadium yesterday as a result of the people's reaction to me and the delegation that I head. We have found no rejection or expression of hostility. On the contrary, in the 2 days that we have been in Honduras we have found a climate of friendship and brotherhood that we believe can be the basis for such a new relationship.

[Wong] The border tensions between Honduras and Nicaragua that you have just mentioned are an important daily topic for us because your country's Army frequently launches attacks against Honduras, and the Sandinist Army always justifies its actions by saying that it is pursuing the counterrevolutionaries who operate in Honduran territory. However, the parents or relatives of the victims report that Nicaragua is constantly launching attacks. For example, at 0900 on Saturday, two youths were killed and two children were seriously wounded by an explosive device launched from Nicaragua. How can you justify these types of attacks against the Honduran civilian population?

[Ramirez] First of all, what must clearly and conclusively be proven is whether those devices and attacks really come from regular forces in Nicaraguan territory, in other words, from our Armed Forces which are guarding the border. You also know that a considerable number of irregular forces operate in that area, including on the Honduran side. Those forces evidently are not dependent on the Honduran but on the U.S. Government. They are armed, financed, trained, and directed by the U.S. Government. Their objective is the creation of tension and chaos mainly in my country, but they also do the same on this side of the border.

In these hours that I have been here, I have spoken with small- and medium-sized Honduran coffee growers who bitterly complain about the outrages, vandalism, and even murders committed by these terrorists. Therefore, the important thing in this case is to eliminate these factors. I am sure the Honduran people can be completely certain that the day that we do not have to pursue to our border these terrorists, who, after committing murders, rapes, and vandalism and setting fires on the Nicaraguan side, take refuge on the Honduran side, the day that these terrorists no longer exist, we will not have a single soldier on the border with Honduras. This border has to be peaceful. It would not need to have massive military vigilance and instead would have a normal and friendly vigilance between the two countries. However, there is a factor of irritation and that is this counterrevolutionary presence on the border when there was no need.

[Wong] You know that General Walter Lopez, commander of the Honduran Armed Forces, and even incoming President Jose Azcona Hoyo have repeatedly denied that there are counterrevolutionary camps in Honduras. It is admitted that there are Nicaraguan refugees and Honduras has accepted them under that status for reasons of humanitarianism and respect for international law that obliges countries to help citizens of other countries who arrive as exiles. How do you view this official statement of Honduras, since the Honduran president and Armed Forces commander deny the presence of counterrevolutionary forces that attack the stability of the Sandinist government of Nicaragua?

[Ramirez] If what you say is true, as an official guest of the Honduran Government I do not want to start a controversy about this topic and contradict what you say, which has been officially stated by the Honduran authorities. I have not heard such a statement. In any case, in order to establish stability and normalcy in the border region, all the factors of irritation that affect the peace and the normalcy in that border region must disappear.

For my part, and without interfering with the official statements or opinions of the Honduran authorities, I want to state that we have forces stationed on the border because we have the problem of constant attacks from terrorist forces, and that as long as these attacks continue from armed irregular forces that act against Nicaragua's national security, we will necessarily have to exercise our right to defense in our territory up to our borders.

[Wong] We accept your diplomatic reply, but I understand that the international news agencies have clearly highlighted remarks by Gen Walter Lopez, chief of the Armed Forces. In December, shortly after his election, President Jose Azcona told U.S. television network reporters that there are no counterrevolutionary camps, but refugee camps. We make this observation because if Honduras officially maintains that there are no counterrevolutionary camps or forces, then there will be no agreement or understanding between Honduras and Nicaragua to eliminate the tensions that have existed in the past months. Do you agree?

[Ramirez] As I said earlier, the possibility that has been opened here for a permanent dialogue will enable us to provide the Honduran Government detailed information about this counterrevolutionary presence in Honduran territory. We believe that we can document it. Perhaps through this exchange of information and documentation of the abundant proof that we can provide to the Honduran Government, we can change this view that the Honduran authorities might have. If this information leads to the path of changing their view, then we can say that the dialogue has advanced.

[Wong] There is a very important point and that is the relationship between Nicaragua and its neighbors, Honduras and Costa Rica. Both the Honduran and Costa Rican Governments are worried that Nicaragua is carrying out an exaggerated arms buildup in comparison to the other countries. According to the Honduran and Costa Rican Governments, this imbalance affects regional peace in Central America. What is your view on this concern in Honduras and Costa Rica over an exaggerated arms buildup on the part of Nicaragua?

[Ramirez] I do not think it is correct to speak about an arms buildup. It is true that we have a considerable number of armed men. We have had to organize a considerable defensive force due to the situation of emergency and war that we are experiencing. However, it is not an arms buildup in the sense that you mentioned. Last year, during 1985, the military operations against these terrorist mercenary forces caused more than 3,000 deaths in my country. We lost the lives of 3,000 youths. More than 5,000 were wounded in this war. There was more than $400 million worth of destruction. Therefore, we have those weapons for one reason, and that is that we are being attacked. We are experiencing a hard situation of a cruel war that is costing many Nicaraguan lives, that is costing the tears of many mothers, that is costing much destruction and blood. Therefore, I can guarantee the Honduran and Cost Rican people that once the situation of war ends in Nicaragua, once there is border security among the Central American countries, once we lay the foundations for a long-term agreement, and once we can truly respect each other, then Nicaragua will not need the rifles, and that arms buildup that you mentioned would immediately disappear.

I hope that Nicaragua will someday be a country that can live without an army and have only a small police force to guarantee internal order. But to ask us to put away those weapons while President Reagan is asking the U.S. Congress for $100 million to give weapons to those mercenary and terrorist forces is unreasonable.

There is even talk that the contras will be given helicopters, airplanes, and launchers, which will turn them into a real army that is perhaps even more powerful than some regular Central American armies, because not many Central American armies receive $100 million worth of supplies a year. So long as that situation does not change, it will be very difficult for us to abandon weapons.

[Wong] As you may have noticed, most Hondurans are in favor of respecting the Nicaraguan people's self-determination. The Honduran people have also said on numerous occasions that Honduras should not be used as a springboard for an invasion of Nicaragua. However, most of the Honduran people are also very concerned about the frequent attacks against the Honduran people, where it has been proven that Sandinist People's Army [EPS] troops participated as they were pursuing the counterrevolutionaries. We feel that the Nicaraguans have a right to defend themselves in Nicaraguan territory, but not in Honduran territory. Could you explain this situation that worries us?

[Ramirez] I fully agree with you. We have a right to pursue the counterrevolutionaries, those bandits, in our territory, but not in Honduran territory. That belongs to the Honduran authorities. In no way should we violate Honduran sovereignty, even if we are pursuing these terrorists. That is why I insist we should reach an agreement on a mechanism that would allow border consultations. Perhaps we should some day agree on border patrols, a joint and coordinated patrolling of the border by the Armed Forces of the two countries, so the border area will be a safe border, with no threats. I think this is the best way of handling the problem. We trust we will be able to reach such an agreement with the new administration.

[Wong] Mr Vice President of Nicaragua, early last year the Nicaragua-U.S. talks at Manzanillo, Mexico, shed some light of hope, of understanding between the Governments of the United States and Nicaragua. However, it was nothing but an illusion, because apparently the United States feels that Nicaragua is turning more and more toward the Soviet bloc, judging from what the U.S. secretary of state said at that time. Why has Nicaragua not sought a mechanism of cordial relations between Nicaragua and the United States, inasmuch as Nicaragua is well aware that part of its possibilities for success rest on cordial relations with the United States?

[Ramirez] We have been seeking to have normal and cordial relations with the United States for several years. That has been one of the main endeavours of our foreign policy, seeking to establish normal relations with the United States. In the first place, we are not anti-United States. We do not think that Nicaragua can last forever living against the United States. We are geographic neighbors, we have ties with the United States. The United States is a very powerful country. Just like Honduras, we are a weak country; we must have some type of relations with the United States. We cannot disregard that.

However, we feel that relations must be respectful, in the first place. We will never ever again accept -- as was the case during the Somoza dictatorship -- a relationship of shameful submission to the United States, which is what this Reagan administration tries to impose on Nicaragua. They want us to kneel and say "yes, sir," to everything the United States wants to impose upon us, and we will never accept that. There was a change in Nicaragua, so we could talk equal-to-equal to any government, even the U.S. Government, no matter how powerful they may be. That pride of being a Nicaraguan, that pride of our nationality is what we are developing in Nicaragua and we are not going to turn back on that. Sure, we should have good relations with the United States, but respectful relations, on an equal basis.

We feel that to demand this is not an unusual thing, it is a normal thing, something that belongs to the worthy Nicaraguans, no matter how powerful the United States may be. It is precisely due to their power that these relations should be respectful, and be relations on an equal basis.

[Wong] The U.S. Government has said, however, that Nicaragua opened the doors for the Fidel Castro regime of Cuba to control practically all of the Nicaraguan security apparatus. Dr Sergio Ramirez Mercado, how much truth is there to saying that Cuba controls the Nicaraguan security apparatus?

[Ramirez] I feel this is a fantasy, and let us call it a clumsy fantasy, with very little imagination. If this were true, I would have to accept that we Nicaraguans are inept fools; that we could not even take care of our own internal security, and that we had to resort to foreigners to do this job for us. We are normally intelligent people, and we ourselves can take care of these tasks. It is also said that the Cubans, Russians, Bulgarians are the ones fighting the counterrevolutionary forces, as if we had no experience in taking up weapons against foreign, interventionist troops. With the support of the Hondurans, we defeated William Walker's filibusterers in 1856. With the liberation army led by General Sandino we expelled the Yankee troops in 1933. Therefore, we have vast experience in fighting foreign mercenary troops. Thus, why should we need Bulgarians, Soviets, Cubans, or other people to do this for us? We are sufficiently equipped to defend ourselves with our hands and capabilities.

[Wong] Most Hondurans agree that Nicaragua should exert its own self-determination and that our country should not be used as a springboard to invade Nicaragua. Likewise, we do not agree that Nicaragua should turn itself over to the Soviet bloc, because self-determination implies that a country should exert its own determination. But the local observers and all the people who feel this way do not agree that it is advisable to go from one mess in order to fall into another one. What do you think about this?

[Ramirez] I fully agree with you. Just like the Honduran people do not agree with our going from the U.S. bloc to another bloc, we are the first ones to agree with that. We are not seeking to belong to any bloc. We want to be free and independent, and we want to be respected. Of course, we have relations with the USSR. We have excellent relations, respectful relations with the USSR. We would like someday to have with the United States the type of respectful relations that we have with the USSR. In Nicaragua, when the president of the Republic makes a decision, he does not first consult with the Soviet ambassador. The Soviet ambassador is not visiting the Managua presidential house on a daily basis to see what the president of the Republic has done, or to ask him for a report. We have a sovereign policy: We do not consult with any foreign embassy and we demand respect from the countries that have diplomatic relations with us, and they must not interfere in Nicaragua's internal affairs. We are truly proud of this. Therefore, if someone here wants to say -- to be joking, yes, I would say this is a stupid joke -- that Nicaragua depends on the USSR, or that the USSR is ruling Nicaragua, he is merely recalling former times when the United States was actually ruling in Nicaragua. Now, we Nicaraguans are the ones who rule our country.

[Wong] There is a problem between Honduras and Nicaragua that constantly worries us. That is the case of several Honduran sailors who were detained in Nicaragua. Mr Vice President, is there a mechanism whereby Nicaragua could release these Honduran sailors who were detained in Honduran territorial waters? Sometimes, Nicaragua says they were detained in Nicaraguan territorial waters. Is there something that could be done? These people were fishermen.

[Ramirez] Yes. Yesterday when I arrived here, I was consulted about this issue.

I contacted the president and he told me that yes, in fact, there are some Honduran sailors who were detained, that this is something that happens all the time. I would say it is a normal issue, that such incidents take place all the time in bordering waters. This is an issue of illegal fishing. The law calls for detaining the crews and ships engaged in illegal fishing. You may rest assured that these sailors will be released within the next few days. I wish to make this announcement to the relatives of the sailors over Radio America.

[Wong] Do you know how many Honduran sailors are being detained in Nicaragua?

[Ramirez] I do not have the exact figure now. I understand that all the Honduran sailors arrested in Nicaragua are going to be released.

[Wong] Dr Sergio Ramirez Mercado, to conclude we would like to say that most Hondurans do not want war between Honduras and Nicaragua. Most Hondurans do not want Honduras to be used as a springboard for invading Nicaragua. However, we also feel that the Sandinist government should respect our territory, our borders, and that its right to defend its territory, government, and revolution can be exerted within its borders and not in Honduran territory, regardless of the circumstances. We would like for the concept that we have that Nicaragua has a right to its self-determination to also be a concept that prevails permanently among the Nicaraguan rulers.

You should know that when the people rebelled in Nicaragua, most Hondurans supported the people's rebellion. We gave them our moral support, because we all agreed that the Somozist dictatorship had already created an atmosphere that was crushing the Nicaraguan people. Likewise, we do not feel that a revolutionary government can justify its behavior when defending a new system for the people and then adopt certain repressive attitudes. Examples of this are closing Radio Catolica in Nicaragua and the daily censorship of LA PRENSA in Managua. We cannot accept that type of behavior from the Sandinist government.

Without this being a lack of respect on our part against you, a top-level authority in Nicaragua, or a lack of respect against the respectable Government of Nicaragua, we feel that the Sandinist government is committing such mistakes, which are ruining its international prestige. A people's government that respects basic rights should not censor public opinion media that have in one way or another criticized the actions of a government. Thus, this situation is an issue we want to bring up, but we repeat without trying to offend you or your government, that we feel that the Sandinist government is committing certain mistakes which are ruining its international prestige.

[Ramirez] I do not feel offended by your question. I believe that the way to understand each other and to clear up situations is to call things by their names. If you were to ask me only idle questions, this interview would not be interesting for me or for the audience. This is an opportunity to tell the truth about what is happening in Nicaragua.

We, unfortunately, and I emphasize the word unfortunately, have been forced to have press censorship in Nicaragua, but I don't agree with the notion that this is a Sandinist error. It is a result of the war situation we are enduring. You cannot compare the freedom of the press situation in Honduras and that in Nicaragua because Honduras is not enduring a war. One could wonder what would be the situation of the radio stations and the newspapers in Honduras if you had 14 or 15 young people die here everyday, if much of your national territory were under the attacks of terrorist bands, if every day you had fires in cooperatives, schools, and health centers, and if civilian trucks traveling in rural areas were being blown up because of mines on the roads.

If that were the situation here, and if you were to have here radio stations and newspapers preaching daily in favor of those terrorist forces, saying that the terrorist forces are doing the right thing, that what they are saying to overthrow the constituted government -- because in Nicaragua we do have a constituted government, a government that emerged from the people's will -- is right, then the situation would be different.

In Nicaragua, we don't apply press censorship or close a radio station because it happens to be Catholic, but because a radio station has broken the country's laws and carries, or has carried, messages that go against order in the country and in favor of situations that go against the normalcy we want for Nicaragua even in the midst of a war situation. We are the main enemies of censorship. I can tell you with certainty that the day we no longer have a war, that we reestablish the normal situation we so much want, the day we secure peace, we will be the first ones to lift all the restrictions on the Nicaraguan news media.

You must take into account one thing regarding Nicaragua. We are being accused of totalitarianism. However, we do have a news media in Nicaragua. Our press censorship is circumstantial. The news media is in the hands of their owners. LA PRENSA remains the property of the Chamorro family. Radio Catolica is still the property of the Managua Episcopacy. There are more than 60 radio stations in Nicaragua's departments and cities, including the city of Managua, that belong to small- and medium-size enterprises. So, it is not that there are no independent or private news organs in Nicaragua. What exists there is a circumstantial situation that will disappear once the war we are enduring ends.

[Wong] Yes. We agree that any government has the right to implement press censorship or to close a media outlet when it files reports that are contrary to national interests or security, but we have read reports that the Sandinist government has prevented Radio Catolica from broadcasting a simple homily or mass by Nicaragua's Obando y Bravo. We have also read that your government has prevented LA PRENSA from publishing reports on a tour of Pope John Paul II. We don't see how that type of news could affect Nicaragua's internal security.

[Ramirez] This does not correspond to the truth. In Nicaragua, as in Honduras, there are hundreds of masses in all the Catholic churches that are open, there are services in all the evangelical centers, there are processions, religious events, saint festivities, all this without any kind of restriction. Freedom of religion does not face any kind of restrictions in Nicaragua and we do not ban the broadcasting of masses.

You are touching on the case of Cardinal Obando y Bravo. He is more a political leader than a religious leader. If he were not a political leader who acts like a politician and who is at the side of the Reagan administration's policies, he would not be right now in Washington lobbying in Congress and at State Department offices seeking support for the $100 million request for the counterrevolutionaries. If Cardinal Obando y Bravo were to limit himself to being a pastor of souls, of his flock, then he would be working in Nicaragua with the Catholic congregation and not in the United States. I do not understand what kind of apostolic work Cardinal Obando y Bravo could be doing in Washington. He has been in Washington for more than 1 week doing some kind of work.

Since Cardinal Obando y Bravo was appointed cardinal of Nicaragua by the Pope, he has visited more than 80 cities of all sizes. His statements have been mostly political because he is a political leader. The messages that Radio Catolica broadcasts are political messages. Radio Catolica preaches throughout the day that young people should not obey the Patriotic Military Service law.

This is a violation of the country's laws. What would happen in Honduras if a radio station were to make commentaries and to broadcast communiques every day urging the Honduran people not to comply with the Honduran Military Service Law. Would this be legal? Well, this, is what is what is happening in Nicaragua, and we are enduring a war situation. I do not think that a call for violation of the law in Honduras would be tolerable, in spite of the fact that in Honduras it could be a little bit more tolerable because Honduras is not enduring a war, but we are enduring a war.

[Wong] Yes. I want to say something. In Honduras there is absolute freedom. For example, last year we in the news media waged a war, if you want to call it that, in the Army because the Honduran young people were being recruited in a brutal way.

[Ramirez] That is something else. If there is brutal recruiting and if any abuse is committed at the time of recruiting, this can be criticized there. In Nicaragua what we don't allow is calls urging young people not to comply with the Patriotic Military Service. That is something else.

[Wong] No. But you cannot deny, Dr Ramirez Mercado, that a campaign in that direction leads young people into not complying with the military service, and I want to tell you that the Army stated its concern in a very civilized way. The Army called the directors of news organs to a meeting and very respectfully asked us to cooperate with the Army with a civic-minded campaign. In other words, for the Army to be able to recruit the young people in a civilized manner we had to develop civil awareness among young Hondurans so that they would understand that complying with the military service is, more than a traditional obligation, a civic duty, and that all the Honduran people should always be ready to comply with a military service that benefits not the Army but the country. There has been a positive reaction since the news media unselfishly and unconditionally contributed with the recruiting.

[Ramirez] Forgive me, but you are talking about a different situation. Cooperation with the Army to correctly appeal for compliance with the military service is one thing, and a call for disobedience of a country's laws is something else. In Nicaragua -- I do not know if this is true in Honduras -- we have a law calling for military service. As I have said before, we are at war. We are at war with a band of mercenaries, against a mercenary army that is being paid, directed, and trained by the U.S. Government. Therefore, a call for disobeying the military service law, insistent calls that young people should not comply with the service, are aimed at leaving the country defenseless. That is what they want. They want to campaign in favor of the enemy that is attacking us. This is what neither the country's laws nor authorities can tolerate in a situation of war like the one we are enduring.

[Wong] Mr Vice President, your statement has been, perhaps, the most forceful accusation about the archbishop of Managua being involved in political activities.

[Ramirez] I do not think that he is bothered about being called a political leader because he behaves like one. I repeat my question: What is Cardinal Obando y Bravo doing in Washington these days? He has talked with congressmen who will be discussing the approval of the $100 million. He has met with State Department people. He has gone to the OAS. And his statements have been, all the while, of a political nature. His statements have been in favor of the Reagan administration's interests in Nicaragua. We cannot hide that. We have told this to the Nicaraguan people. Cardinal Obando y Bravo is a political leader who is increasingly identifying himself with the position of the Reagan administration. We believe this is an error by Cardinal Obando y Bravo.

This is, of course, his decision and we are not going to correct him, but these are political actions.

[Wong] Does the majority of the Catholic Church hierarchy of Nicaragua support this political behavior -- as you call it -- of Msgr Obando y Bravo?

[Ramirez] In Nicaragua, 90 percent of the population -- and we are 3 million Nicaraguans -- is Catholic. The rest belong to other Christian religions -- Baptists, Protestants, etc. There are very few atheists in Nicaragua. So, who are defending the country? Who are defeating, arms in hand, the counterrevolutionary forces? And we are defeating them. Who are working for the revolution?

The Nicaraguan people are a Christian people, a Catholic people. We have never forced the Nicaraguan people to choose between the revolution and their religious faith. That would be insane. But whoever puts the Nicaraguan people in the situation of having to choose between their submission to the authority of an eccelsiastic hierarchy and their adherence to the revolution would also be making an error, I think, because Catholics will not stop being Catholics just because they are revolutionaries. What could be weakened is the submission to an alleged authority that makes them choose between revolution and Catholicism, something that we are not doing. We believe that the two conditions are compatible. In Nicaragua a person can be both Catholic and revolutionary.

[Wong] What you are telling us is that the Sandinist government permits freedom of religion?

[Ramirez] To verify this, all a person has to do is to go to Nicaragua and see the churches open, the priests saying mass, the processions on the streets. We in the Government House every year celebrate en masse Nicaragua's most important religious event, the most pure conception of Mary, on 7 December. We erect alters in front of the Government House and hundreds of thousands of people go by throughout the night singing and celebrating this religious holiday with us, the revolutionary leaders, in the Government House.

[Wong] Do you participate in those festivities?

[Ramirez] Yes, I do. Of course. I like that very much. This is one of the most beautiful holidays we have in Nicaragua.

[Wong] Then you are not one of the government officials who supports the existence of the Marxist doctrine within the government? On one occasion Commander Daniel Ortega said that the Sandinist front's doctrine adheres to the Marxist doctrine.

[Ramirez] That question is of a philosophical nature and I do not believe it has anything to do with the religious subject. We are not theoreticians. We are practical people. We are revolutionaries, obviously. We are directing a very difficult revolutionary process that is, unfortunately, confronting the United States. No one will ever see us basing our actions on what books say while ignoring what the true situation is telling us. This is what is important for us. We are pragmatic people. We are realistic revolutionaries. We did not fall victim to the disease common to all revolutionaries during the first few months of the revolution. We are mature people and we will continue conducting this process like mature people.

[Wong] Mr President, according to some international reports your government has repressed some religious sects such as the Jehovah's Witnesses and the Mormons and has confiscated some of their property. Is this true?

[Ramirez] There have been some judicial processes conducted by Nicaraguan justices involving some of these religious orders, although these are not religious orders. I do not know what to call them. Some of these sects, of U.S. origin, continue functioning in the country. This situation has been overcome legally. In Nicaragua there are more than 100 Baptist and Protestant denominations. When I travel across Managua in my vehicle, I always see the name of a new church on small wooden temples that have just opened their doors.

[Wong] One last question, Mr Vice President. Some Nicaraguans who have fled -- they say they have fled -- from Nicaragua have said that during the days of Somoza, which were truly dictatorial days, the government did not close the media or confiscate material. However, this government is now closing the media and confiscating material. How would you comment on these charges made by Nicaraguans who are in Costa Rica, Tegucigalpa, Honduras, and in other Latin American countries?

[Ramirez] I have two comments to make regarding your observation. First, what is the meaning of fleeing from Nicaragua? Whoever wants to come to Honduras can take the SAHSA [Honduran Air Service S.A.] aircraft that leaves Managua everday at 0700. I took a SAHSA plane to come to Tegucigalpa. Those who like to go to Miami once traveled there on Aeronica flights. However, because the United States, in the blockade decreed last May, banned Aeronica flights to Miami, Aeronica now has an agreement with LACSA [Costa Rican Airlines S.A.] and whoever wants to go to Miami from Nicaragua leaves from San Jose. We also have TACA [Central American Air Transport] flights to New Orleans, flights to San Salvador, and two large, open frontiers. The passports of Nicaraguan citizens who wish to leave are not withheld.

Therefore, I think that this talk about fleeing is ludicrous. We Nicaraguans do not live behind an iron curtain from which we are not allowed to leave. Anyone can freely enter and leave Nicaragua. All those who trade with Nicaragua can bear witness to the fact that anyone can freely pass through the Honduran border to and from Nicaragua.

Second, one of the most dishonest actions of the enemies of the Nicaraguan revolutionary process is comparing the revolution with the Somozist dictatorship. These people go so far as to say that things were better in Nicaragua under Somoza. They claim that everything was better: the press had more freedom, the justice system was better, there was no repression, and there was no persecution. Therefore, the obvious inference would be that it was madness for the FSLN to have overthrown the Somozist dictatorship since it was so good and since we were so well off under Somoza. According to them, Somoza did not censor the media. No, he did not, he destroyed them. These people have already forgotten that one night an armored National Guard vehicle went to the newspaper LA PRENSA, shelled it, set it on fire, and completely destroyed it. This is the type of freedom of the press the Somozist dictatorship respected.

Somoza ordered all of the country's independent radio stations closed and the so-called underground journalism sprung up in Nicaragua. Journalists took their microphones to the churches in Managua, to the San Antonio Temple, and broadcast their newscasts from there. People went to the churches to listen to the radio newscasts they could not listen to via the stations. So, this is the type of freedom of the press we had under the Somozist dictatorship which did not defend anything that was morally good, only the unjust system.

We feel that we are indeed defending a system that is morally right, a system of justice, which is trying to radically change the living conditions of the poorest people in our country, of the underprivileged peasants, to whom we are giving land.

Agrarian reform has distributed over 2 million manzanas of land to the peasants.

We have ended polio in Nicaragua. There has not been a single case of polio in Nicaragua during the last 4 years. There hasn't been a single case of whooping cough or measles in Nicaragua this year. We have 1 million people -- children, youths, people of all ages -- in primary, secondary, and technical schools. This is what the revolution has done despite the aggression and the serious economic difficulties we are enduring. This is what we are defending.

When the war is over -- I am completely certain it will indeed end and we will defeat the aggression -- Nicaragua will have peace and we will have the most open freedom of the press in Latin America.

[Wong] Dr Ramirez, we are sincerely grateful to you for having granted us this exclusive interview, which has been very interesting for our station. We want to reiterate to you what we told you during this interview -- namely, that most of us Hondurans respect Nicaragua's right to self-determination and we do not support a war with Nicaragua. In addition, most Hondurans do not agree with the use of our territory as a springboard for an invasion of Nicaragua.

We also feel that the Nicaraguan Government must always bear firmly and clearly in mind a fundamental concept: as a free and democratic country, Honduras is entitled to elect its own authorities and government, and to have the lifestyle which the Honduran people think is best for them. You were able to see the huge throng of Hondurans who went to the stadium to welcome a new president and jeer an outgoing president, whose behavior they disapproved of because of some errors he committed.

I think that the sovereign will which the Honduran people expressed at the polls is faithful testimony to the fact that Hondurans are a mature people who wish to continue living under their present system. In this regard, we would never want Nicaragua to try to meddle and send elements who may destabilize our system.

I sincerely thank you for your statements to our station. Would you like to take a moment to make a farewell statement during this interview?

[Ramirez] Indeed. I simply wish to thank you for the opportunity you have granted me to outline our views to the Honduran people and to tell you that I fully agree with your closing statement. We think that coexistence must be based on mutual respect among peoples. You have a democratic system and a popularly elected government here. We have come here to attend this transfer of power precisely for that reason.

As for us, we also have a government that was elected by an overwhelming majority of the Nicaraguan people. We have a Constitution that our popularly elected National Assembly will put to a vote this year. This Constitution will [word indistinct] peace amid political pluralism, which the revolution is bent on consolidating in our country.

Obviously, there are differences between our two systems but this does not mean that we cannot live beside each other as fraternal countries and amid mutual respect for our internal democratic systems, which lie at the base of this relationship. We think that this respect must be consolidated and that these ties between our two countries must be strengthened. Thank you.

[Wong] Thank you, doctor. Have a good day and thank you very much for your kindness.

RAMIREZ ON ORTEGA-AZCONA TALKS, BORDER COMMISSION

PA292335 Managua Sistema Sandinista de Television in Spanish 0200 GMT 29 Jan 86

[Passages with quotation marks recorded]

[Text] Vice President Sergio Ramirez Mercado arrived in the country tonight from Honduras, where he attended the inauguration of President Jose Azcona Hoyo. Dr Ramirez reported about his trip at the Augusto C. Sandino Airport.

Vice President Ramirez was greeted at the airport by Commander Daniel Ortega, president of the Republic, and Cabinet members. Shortly afterwards, he held a news conference in which he pointed out that despite a misinformation campaign in Honduras, there is much respect and support for the revolution.

[Ramirez] "In Honduras we felt a warm attitude toward Nicaragua. As representatives of the Nicaraguan people, we never felt anything from the Honduran people but expressions of happiness for our presence there; we felt their support. At no time did we feel any hostility or ill-will toward us or the Nicaraguan revolution."

Ramirez said he held meetings with all Honduran sectors who told him that:

[Ramirez] "First, Honduras has no reason to be unfriendly toward Nicaragua; second, Honduras and the Honduran people oppose any confrontation; they oppose the idea of and confrontation between Honduras and Nicaragua and believe that Honduras should not serve as a springboard for aggression against Nicaragua."

The vice president said he met with Jose Azcona Hoyo, the new Honduran head of state.

[Ramirez] "We reiterated an invitation made by President Ortega while in Guatemala to hold a meeting as soon as possible. President Azcona accepted a meeting at the presidential level between the two countries, but pointed out that he would prefer the Esquipulas meeting to take place first."

Ramirez added that there is a positive atmosphere for the meeting of six Central American presidents to take place in Guatemala.

[Ramirez] "We again discussed this topic with President Cerezo, the author of the initiative. The idea is to hold the meeting even before the installation of new authorities in Costa Rica to allow the president-elect to attend this meeting together with President Monge so we would not have to wait until May."

Ramirez said he agreed with Azcona that there will be a meeting of foreign ministers very soon while preparations are being made for a bilateral meeting between the presidents of Honduras and Nicaragua. He stressed an invitation from the Nicaraguan foreign minister to his Honduran counterpart to visit our country in March. He also pointed to the willingness to establish permanent consultation mechanisms between Honduran and Nicaraguan border authorities to seek a normalization of relations between the two countries.

Finally, Ramirez said that there is great concern within the Honduran private business sector including the cattlemen, who are forced to leave their workplaces because they are being harrassed by the counterrevolution.

PLANE CRASH PROVES SALVADORAN SUPPORT OF CONTRAS

PA292322 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1930 GMT 29 Jan 86

[Text] The recent crash of a counterrevolutionary military airplane in Salvadoran territory fully demonstrates the Salvadoran Government's complicity with the Nicaraguan peoples' aggressors. The plane crash has been kept a secret by the Salvadoran Government and there has been a military siege at the site of the crash, which took place last Friday, to prevent the entry of newsmen. According to Radio Venceremos, the voice of the Salvadoran guerrillas, the accident took place west of the Ilopango Air Base, which is considered the contras' center of operations in El Salvador.

The crash of the contra plane in El Salvador disproves accusations that were never proven by the Salvadoran Government regarding Nicaragua's alleged supplying of arms to the Salvadoran guerrillas, and confirms that government's unconcealable cooperation with the Somozist mercenaries.

U.S. CONTRA AID, UNWILLINGNESS TO TALK CONDEMNED

PA300348 Paris AFP in Spanish 0308 GMT 30 Jan 86

[Text] Managua, 28 Jan (AFP) -- Today the Nicaraguan Government condemned the support for the contras that was announced by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, and warned that this will prove Washington's intentions to "oust a legitimate government by force, threats, and blackmail." Shultz offered between $35 million and $100 million to the anti-Sandinist guerrillas on Tuesday; he also offered to outfit them with SAM-7 anti-aircraft missiles, as announced by Nicaraguan Opposition Unity (UNO) leaders Arturo Cruz, Adolfo Calero, and Alfonso Robelo, who talked with him. Shultz also said to the rebel leaders that the Reagan administration will not renew its bilateral talks with the Sandinist government; the talks were suspended 1 year ago in Manzanillo, Mexico.

The protest points out that "this new confirmation of a warmongering policy against our country proves once more that the Reagan administration's main goal is to oust the legitimate Nicaraguan Government by force, threat, or blackmail." The note adds: "This unmasks the deceptive pretexts and false campaigns (President Reagan) carried out at the U.S. Congress." During the next few weeks the U.S. Congress will discuss the new plan to provide aid to the Nicaraguan counterrevolution, which has received more than $100 million from Washington during the last 3 years.

Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto also states in his protest note that President Reagan has failed to fulfill his "promise" to the U.S. Congress made last year when he stated that if they approved the $27 million aid for the rebels he would restart the dialogue with the Sandinist directorate.

1,400 CONTRAS REPORTEDLY KILLED IN 1985

PA291829 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 29 Jan 86

[Excerpt] The military chief of the 5th Region, Commander Roberto Calderon, has reported that a total of 1,400 counterrevolutionaries were killed, over 100 were captured, approximately 200 turned themselves in, and abundant armaments and war materiel were seized in 1985 by the Sandinist People's Army [EPS] and the Interior Ministry.

Commander Calderon added that the EPS is defeating the counterrevolutionaries because there are internal conflicts within the organizations.

N. AMERICAN INDIANS 'IN DANGER' VISITING MISKITOS

PA291937 Paris AFP in Spanish 1832 GMT 29 Jan 86

[Text] San Jose, 29 Jan (AFP) -- Canadian citizen Clem Chartier, president of the World Council of Indian Peoples, is visiting Nicaragua's Atlantic region to "have a first hand look at what is really happening". This is according to Delano Martin, a spokesman for Misurasata [Miskito, Sumu, Rama Sandinist Unity], which is the Nicaraguan Indian opposition organization.

Chartier traveled to the Nicaraguan Caribbean Coast accompanied by Misurasata's main leader Brooklin Rivera and three other U.S. Indian leaders, among them Russell Means.

For the past 11 days, the Sandinists have reportedly launched an offensive against the insurgents' positions in the country's Atlantic region.

In view of reports that the visiting Indians had been wounded during the combat, Delano said the members of the foreign mission are all "safe and sound." However, he said, that they "are in danger" due to the attacks by ground, air, and sea that the Sandinist Peoples' Army, EPS, is carrying out in that region. According to Misurasata's spokesman, almost all the Indian communities in the Nicaraguan Atlantic Coast "are being bombed and occupied by the military forces." For that reason, Chartier and his companions "must be continuously moved, under the protection of the Misurasata forces," he added.

The Sandinist government has insisted that it is willing to resume talks with Misurasata, talks which have been suspended since May 1985, but has accused Brooklin Rivera of presenting unacceptable conditions "which prevent the dialogue." The Sandinist government has, in particular, accused Chartier and U.S. geographer Bernard Nietschman -- who are both Rivera's advisers -- of opposing the FSLN's policy.

UNO PRESENTS PLANS FOR PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT

PA272006 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2112 GMT 25 Jan 86

[By Wilfredo Chacon S.]

[Text] San Jose, 25 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- The anti-Sandinist Nicaraguan Opposition Unity (UNO), headed by Adolfo Calero, Alfonso Robelo, and Arturo J. Cruz, has proposed the bases for a provisional government of national reconciliation.

UNO leaders today distributed a document containing the bases for democrating their country "to guarantee and propitiate political pluralism by exercising democratic representation." The project contemplates equal conditions for all Nicaraguans, as well as "respect for ethnic, cultural, and religious values."

As an expression of "a rehabilitation and reconciliation process," it proposes a "general amnesty for all political and common crimes, without exception."

The government program contains provisions to resolve socioeconomic problems affecting the family, as well as provisions for the workplace, education, agrarian reform, assistance to war victims and combatants, the return of exiles, and the establishment of a new social contract. According to the concept of the opponents of the Sandinist government, the new state to be established will be a lawful regime "that will ensure equal treatment before the law, respect for and full validity of human rights, and the separation and independence of the executive, legislative, and judicial branches."

As for civilian freedoms, the UNO leadership proclaims that these will be encompassed broad guarantees, "especially freedom of speech, labor union privileges, including the right to strike, and freedom of association and worship."

According to the document of the anti-Sandinists, the election of political authorities will be carried out via the electoral path as the only way to "guarantee the respect of the popular will expressed freely in such periodic processes."

The efficient and honest use of public funds and state resources will also be guaranteed through the creation of a National Comptrollership Commission.

The reconciliation government would abolish the death penalty in Nicaragua and the special tribunals "that have been abusively created by the FSLN." As for state security, UNO proposes the establishment of a National Army which "nobody with a record of violating human rights will be allowed to be part of." In that regard, the new government would proceed to "demilitarize society," subject military authority to civilian power, and dismantle "security organizations and organizations of the Sandinist regime with repressive characteristics."

The foreign policy of the regime proposed by UNO leaders would promote, according to a plan revealed here today, "the independence and sovereignty of the nation, based on principles of the Inter-American system." It would also aim to maintain the policy in complying with international agreements, cooperation, and friendly relations, especially "with countries that practice representative democracy."

After the approval of the program, and 8 months after installation of the provisional and conciliation regime, it would hold elections for a Constituent Assembly that would issue a new constitution within 18 months. After 18 months in office, the new provisional government would hold general elections for a new and democratic government.

Calero, Cruz, and Robelo said this project needs the support of all democratic sectors of the Nicaraguan people and the solidarity and support of the free governments and peoples of the world.

SOVIET SPORTS OFFICIAL ON 1988 OLYMPICS

PA291613 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1201 GMT 28 Jan 86

[Text] Havana, 27 Jan (EFE) -- Marat Gramov, chairman of the Committee for Physical Culture and Sports of the USSR, said today that socialist countries, as well as many others, support the movement in favor of holding the 1988 Olympics in both the ROK and the DPRK. Gramov, who is currently on an official visit in Cuba, said that the International Olympic Committee (IOC) "has meddled in the internal affairs of the Korean peninsula by delivering the games to the ROK."

"Many political leaders in the world, as well as international organizations such as UNESCO, are deeply concerned about the future of the Olympics," Gramov stressed. He added: "This is why Cuban President Fidel Castro has proposed the creation of an international organization to handle international sports in the future."

In an interview granted to a U.S. congressman last year, Cuban President Fidel Castro said: "I believe that the catastrophe of Seoul must be prevented and that the Olympics must be shared, in order to save the Olympic movement. That would be the only way to prevent serious difficulties and a possible collapse of the Olympic movement," he added.

On that occasion Castro said that he "fully supports" the idea that the United Nations should take action on this matter and should create an institution to encourage, promote, and give assistance to sports and physical education activities. Gramov said: "It must be understood that the modern international Olympic movement is only a part of current sports activities."

Gramov referred to IOC President Juan Antonio Samaranch, stating that "he wants to mount a great show, in order to make a big profit; those are his plans for future Olympics, to turn them into open tournaments for amateurs and professionals." In the opinion of the Soviet sports official, "the IOC class structures do not respond to sports needs."

He added: "Coubertin created the bases for the modern Olympic Games, but unfortunately today he is considered romantically-minded. Some say that his time has passed, and their purpose is to turn sports into a commercial activity."

Regarding the Association of National Olympic Committees and its president, Mexican Mario Vasquez Rana, Gramov said: "It would be an important institution if it fulfilled its role; however, neither that association nor the IOC give any assistance to the national Olympic committees." "It is important for the Association of National Olympic Committees to know its role, because Vasquez Rana is not doing his part to give that institution the importance it should have."

Gramov announced that 20 countries from the 5 continents have confirmed their participation in the "Goodwill Games," to be held in Moscow in July. In this regard, he said that those games are not considered an olympiad. "They will be neither large or small; they will be goodwill games, in which youths will have an opportunity to compete in some 100 sports."

SOVIET SHIP ARRIVES IN HAVANA WITH DONATION

FL292015 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 29 Jan 86

[Text] Jorge Lezcano Perez, Central Committee member and party first secretary in Havana, has presided over the welcoming ceremony for the ship (Karnu Laras), which has brought to Cuba the first cargo of the Soviet Government's donation to our country after Hurricane Kate. The 2,500 tons of steel, asbestos, cement, and general goods will be used by Havana City, Havana, and Sancti Spiritus Provinces.

DOMINICANS ARRIVE TO ATTEND PARTY CONGRESS

FL291908 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 29 Jan 86

[Text] A group of Dominican leaders has been in Cuba since yesterday; they are here to attend the third party congress as guests. Included in this group are Roberto Santana, general under secretary of the Anti-Imperialist Patriotic Union, and (Juan Perez Ya), a member of the Politburo of the Communist Party. The following have also arrived in Cuba from the Dominican Republic: Leonardo Mercedes, member of the Politburo of the Socialist Bloc, Miguel Mejias, leader of the organization Militants of the United Left, and (Feliz Alberto Ducodrav), member of the Politburo of the Dominican Liberation Party.

URUGUAY'S SENDIC ON DEMOCRATIC PROCESS

FL300222 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 30 Jan 86

[Text] Raul Sendic, leader of the Tupamaros [National Liberation Front], has said in Havana that his organization supports and defends Uruguay's democratic process, which is now being threatened. Sendic said that opposition candidates, such as Liber Seregni [Broad Front leader], could not participate in the elections because of imprisonment or because the dictatorship did not allow it. The leader of the Uruguayan Tupamaro movement also said that neither the current Uruguayan leadership nor parliament can eliminate coupist elements from the Army.

Sendic, 70 years old, is recovering in Havana from his long years of imprisonment and torture.

CASTRO THANKS CPSU FOR JUBILEE GREETINGS

PM291920 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 Jan 86 First Edition p 1

[Text] To the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and USSR Council of Ministers

On behalf of our people and the Communist Party and Government of the Republic of Cuba, I express the most heartfelt gratitude for the fraternal greetings message on the occasion of the 27th anniversary of the victory of the Cuban revolution.

Fidel Castro Ruz, first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee and chairman of the Councils of State and Ministers of the Republic of Cuba.

GRENADA

BLAIZE INVITES 'ONLY INDEPENDENT' STATES TO SUMMIT

FL292248 Bridgetown CANA in English 2012 GMT 29 Jan 86

[By George Worme]

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, Jan 29, CANA -- Guyana and Belize are the only independent Caribbean Community (Caricom) countries that have not been invited to next month's summit with President Reagan during his four-hour visit to Grenada.

According to the Grenada Prime Minister Herbert Blaize, he had sent invitations only to the leaders of independent island states in the English-speaking Caribbean. He said that Belize, in Central America, and Guyana, in South America, cannot be placed into this category.

Blaize denied suggestions that he was instructed by the Reagan administration not to invite socialist Guyana in particular.

I have an independent government and nobody can tell me what to do. If we decide to do something we do it on our own and not at the request of anybody, he told CANA.

Regional, economic, and security matters would dominate the summit with Reagan who is coming to Grenada nearly more than two years after American troops stormed the small east-Caribbean island to bring an end to Marxist rule.

Blaize said he would announce within a few days who had accepted the invitation to meet Reagan on February 20.

I still have to communicate with some of them (the prime ministers), and I should be able to give something like who would be here for the summit by weekend, he added.

Jamaica's Prime Minister Edward Seaga has already accepted Blaize's invitation to attend the February 20 summit.

Blaize also said that the itinerary for Reagan's visit had not been fully finalized but that he wanted the President to spend at least one hour at the public rally at Queens Park before leaving the island.

In a press advisory today, the government indicated that Reagan will open the terminal building at Point Salines international airport.

He is also due to hold bilateral talks with Blaize and the island's Governor-General Sir Paul Scoon, as well as attend a ceremony at the bronze monument erected at the American medical school on the island honouring 19 U.S. servicemen killed during the invasion.

TOURISM INCREASES 30 PERCENT DURING 1985

FL300001 Bridgetown CANA in English 2102 GMT 29 Jan 86

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, Jan 29, CANA -- Tourism grew more than 30 per cent last year, Tourism Minister George Brizan said.

Brizan gave no figures but according to the Caribbean Tourism Research and Development Centre, the number of tourists coming to Grenada during the first 10 months of 1985 reached 41,497, a 38.4 per cent comparative increase.

The tourism minister told Parliament that tourism receipts in Grenada totalled 25.1 million U.S. dollars as compared to 17.8 million U.S. dollars in 1984.

Tourism currently provides employment for five per cent of the labour force in Grenada.

Brizan spoke of a sizeable increase in cruise ship business in 1985 with a number of cruise liners making calls to the island for the first time in five years after removing Grenada from their itinerary because of political instability in the early 1980's.

The return of those ships and the placing of Grenada on their itinerary is a clear indication of not only the (cruise) lines confidence in the new (Grenada) administration, but is an example of the manifestation of the growing stability of the country, he said.

Brizan said that tourism officials are anticipating a stayover visitor arrival figure of 75,000 by 1990.

JAMAICA

USSR RENEWS THREE YEAR TRADE AGREEMENT

FL292222 Bridgetown CANA in English 2119 GMT 29 Jan 86

[By Paget de Freitas]

[Text] Kingston, Jan 29, CANA -- The Soviet Union has renewed a three-year trade protocol with Jamaica but declined to purchase more bauxite, officials said today.

A four-member Soviet trade delegation, headed by senior Foreign Trade Ministry official Nikolai Zinovyev was leaving today after several days of talks in Kingston during which the protocol was formally extended.

The agreement largely covers trade between the countries and terms under which Jamaica pays for Soviet imports.

Jamaica's main hope during the discussions was for a positive Soviet response to its quest to increase its annual sale of a million tonnes of bauxite under a seven year agreement which expires in 1990.

At present it is not possible for us to take an increase in delivery of bauxite, said Kingston-based Soviet trade representative Edward Barlaban. He said that Soviet supply of bauxite was at present adequate.

They [word indistinct] added Dr Carlton Davis, the executive director of the state-run Jamaica Bauxite Institute (JBI).

Jamaica's bauxite industry continues to be hit by the recession in the world aluminium market, and output which in 1980 was 12 million tonnes was half that amount in 1985. It is expected to be slightly lower this year.

Although we cannot take an increase in shipments of bauxite at this time, maybe we can do so in the future, maybe by the time the present protocol expires, Barlaban said.

Soviet purchases of Jamaican bauxite amounts to over U.S. 20 million dollars annually, officials here say.

Jamaican industry officials consider Moscow a good customer, paying on time and in hard currency. The Soviets also purchase about a million dollars a year of Jamaican pimento (allspice). Under the Soviet-Jamaica arrangement, the Caribbean island is to purchase in Soviet goods approximately 20 per cent of the value of the bauxite sales.

Until now, the Jamaicans have bought mainly Lada motor cars and spares, but they are now seeking to expand the portfolio. At present, there is some interest in buying agricultural equipment, and we are very close to concluding the deal, Soviet trade representative Barlaban said.

Analysts here say Soviet manufactures and technology are becoming increasingly attractive to the Jamaicans. Terms offered by the Soviets to Jamaican traders, with interest rates in the region of 6.5 per cent, is said to be favourable.

Trade between Jamaica and the Soviets was in 1981 valued at under U.S. 9 million dollars, but had reached U.S. 28 million dollars in 1984 and officials say there is scope for further growth.

At a function for the Soviet mission yesterday, Minister in the Foreign Ministry Ossie Harding said both sides had made preliminary explorations to identify new equipment and projects which would serve to improve bilateral trade. He did not specify.

HAITI

ANTIGOVERNMENT DEMONSTRATIONS CONTINUE

Arson, Looting Reported

FL291744 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1230 GMT 29 Jan 86

[Text] Antigovernment demonstrations show no sign of ending in Haiti. Residents rampaged in the south Haitian city of Les Cayes yesterday, seizing food and medicine and shouting antigovernment slogans. Radio Lumiere reported that hundreds of residents entered schools, an orphanage, and a health center, taking food, medicines, refrigerators, mattresses, and other supplies. The disturbances in Les Cayes came 1 day after security forces in Cap Haitien, 160 miles north of Port-au-Prince, killed 3 people and wounded about 20 during antigovernment protests. Officials say they feel the death toll will rise.

In the town of Gonaives, an angry crowd Monday burned down the courthouse and set fire to the customs house. Police and militiamen in Gonaives beat back the crowd, which had gone to the courthouse to attack three men charged with the November 28 shooting of three students during the earlier wave of protests.

The U.S. Embassy in Port-au-Prince has advised Americans not to travel to Cap Haitien or Gonaives.

Major Anti-Duvalier Protest

FL292218 Bridgetown CANA in English 2149 GMT 29 Jan 86

[Text] Cap Haitien, Haiti, Jan 29, CANA-REUTER -- Residents of Haiti's second largest town, Cap Haitien, staged a massive protest against President Jean-Claude Duvalier today as a call went out for an eight-day general strike against his rule next month.

About half of Cap Haitien's 75,000 population ran and sang through the streets as the other half cheered. The crowd marched to the cathedral and briefly surrounded the police station but troops and police had clearly been ordered not to react and there was no gunfire or reports of casualties.

As the most dramatic protest against the 28-year-old rule of the Duvalier family subsided, the protesters gave foreign reporters a statement in which they said Duvalier would be effectively overthrown within three weeks.

After a general strike from February 12 to 20, it said, in the event that he is still in power, Jean-Claude (Duvalier), more and more isolated, will be president only of his palace and it will take little to oust him.

Down With Duvalier, Long Live Liberty, the unsigned statement concluded.

The atmosphere was one of near-hysteria and at times of carnival as men, women and children gradually assembled in the narrow, potholed streets, singing down with Duvalier and standing firm as single jeeploads of troops drove past.

With three dead and 38 wounded here this week in anti-government protests, Catholic Church leaders, businessmen, academics and diplomats agree Duvalier is seriously threatened for the first time since he took over in 1971 from his father, Francois Papa Doc Duvalier.

Diplomats say popular grievances centre on his purchases palaces and mansions around the world worth millions of dollars while the majority of Haitians live on a meager 100 dollars a year, suffering malnutrition.

Today's demonstration started with only 30 or 40 youths who gathered outside the corner tailors shop where 50-year-old Christophe Chanel was killed as soldiers sprayed the shop with gunfire on Monday. Soon the crowd had swelled into the thousands and by the time they got to the police station reporters estimated the number at more than 30,000.

As the demonstrators passed the hillside Justinien Hospital, patients wounded during Sunday and Monday's street protests, as well as doctors, waved their encouragement.

The only moment of tension came as the crowd surged toward an Army barracks on the edge of town, and two truckloads of troops of Haiti's northern tactical unit blocked their path, carrying riot shields and automatic rifles.

The statement handed to reporters said in calling for the general strike: This is to give you time to organize yourselves. Except for hospitals and pharmacies, all activity will be stopped for eight days, there will be no commerce, industry, buses, taxis, gas pumps. Stay at home, dear compatriots, the soldiers and patriotic officers will desert.

We do not want to harm anyone. But this time, we will be forced to use all the appropriate means to neutralize those who do not follow us.

We realize the situation of thousands of people who live from day to day, but if we have held out for 28 years (of Duvalier rule), we can manage another eight days.

The statement called on Haitians to boycott next months planned carnival, usually the highlight of the year, which is due in mid-February.

After boycotting the carnival and with the eight-day general strike, in the event that he still remains in power, Jean-Claude, more and more isolated, will be president only of his palace and it will not take much to oust him.

Church-run radio stations also reported anti-Duvalier protests in the town of Les Cayes, in the south, where protesters last night looted food warehouses run by both Protestant and Catholic aid organizations.

In Cap Haitien, the demonstrators were more vocal than ever before, screaming, Duvalier Masisi (Creole for Duvalier is a gay) and other slogans. Some youths grabbed the microphone of a Canadian radio reporter and shouted anti-government obscenities.

At one point, the crowd passed the slum home of 13-year-old Adlin Pierre, fatally wounded when militiamen, known here as the Ton Tons Macoutes, sprayed gunfire down his street. The boy was huddling inside his tiny home -- a single three-metre by three-metre room -- with his parents and seven brothers and sisters when a bullet came in through the shutters.

His father appeared at the door today, weeping and holding up his son's blood-soaked clothes.

Diplomats See 'Beginning of End'

FL291534 Bridgetown CANA in English 1345 GMT 29 Jan 86

[By Phil Davison]

[Text] Cap Haitien, Jan 29, CANA-REUTER -- The 28-year-old Duvalier dynasty in Haiti is in real danger for the first time after the latest outbreak of anti-government protests, many Haitians and foreign diplomats say.

Most diplomats believe President-for-Life Jean-Claude Duvalier could be toppled soon, possibly in an Army takeover, and they say the vast majority of the six million people of this impoverished Caribbean country would support such a move.

Thousands of men, women and children protested in the streets this week in this northern town, the country's second largest.

The protests, in which three people were shot dead and 30 wounded, were widely seen as the most significant step to date in what many Haitians are now openly calling the revolution.

Catholic Church leaders, businessmen, academics and diplomats agree Duvalier is seriously threatened for the first time since he took over in 1971 from his father, Francois Papa Doc Duvalier, who ruled for 13 years before that.

The people were looking troops straight in the eye, for the first time, and chanting "Down With Duvalier" on the steps of the cathedral here, a local teacher told REUTER today. There is no doubt about it, it was a major step.

Revolution certainly seemed afoot in Cap Haitien, a blend of squalid slums and breath-taking tropical scenery, as thousands taunted troops and militiamen. They were answered by hundreds of gunshots, mostly in the air but some aimed down the narrow streets or into houses.

This correspondent was struck by the resemb ance to the streets of Tehran in the weeks before the 1979 revolution which toppled the shah of Iran:

-- The increasing incidence of the slogan "A Bas Duvalier" (Down With Duvalier) reminiscent of the chants of "Marg Bar Shah" (Down With the Shah) in Iran. As in Tehran, demonstrators here stopped motorists and ordered them to say Down With Duvalier before letting them pass.

- The feeling in this town of 75,000 and Gonaives, farther south, it that the vast majority of people back the anti-government movement with growing openness. As happened in Tehran, youths of housewives hauled this reporter into their primitive homes yesterday as troops opened fire or began clubbing people in the streets.

The people here express the same grievances against Duvalier as poor Iranians did against the shah. Diplomats here say Duvalier has purchased palaces and mansions around the world worth millions of dollars while the majority of Haitians live on a meagre 100 dollars a year, suffering malnutrition. Opposition to the president has grown since he married a few years ago. His 34-year-old wife Michele is regularly seen on shopping sprees in the most expensive stores in Europe and, despite Haiti's tropical heat, has one of the biggest collections of mink coats in the world, according to diplomats who know the first couple. Most diplomats in the capital, Port-Au-Prince, now express the view that Duvalier's days as president are numbered and that the most likely scenario is an Army takeover with the president possibly sent into exile.

Many Haitians interviewed in the streets say they would welcome an Army takeover if it got rid of the president. Due to Haiti's relative proximity to Cuba, and the Florida coast, many Haitians also believe the United States will play at least a strong behind-the-scenes role in developments here to prevent a leftist takeover. Many people interviewed said even a U.S. military invasion would be welcome since they felt it would ease their major problem, poverty.

Meanwhile, the situation in this harbour town where Christopher Columbus came ashore in 1492, was quiet but tense. Businesses remained closed, few cars were on the streets and groups of youths stood on every street corner. The youths said they would continue to demonstrate daily. Several said they were prepared to die to liberate our people.

Local priests said they were negotiating with the Army, which was in control of the hospital, for the return of the bodies of the three people killed, including two children, to their families for burial. They predicted increased demonstrations if this were not done. The local church-run Radio Ave Maria yesterday broadcast the speech made by Pope John Paul when he arrived in Port-au-Prince in March, 1983, and residents turned up their radios full blast, sending an eerie echo of the pontiff's words across the otherwise quiet town. Turning from French to Creole to the cheers of his audience, the pope declared: Have courage, have faith, I am with you, you can count on me.